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15 MAY 1897 / T2

BOMBAY BANK AND STOCK LIST.

BANKS.

	Shares.	Amount.	Paid-up.	Last Half-Yearly Divid.	Cash Rate.
INDIAN BANKS.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Bank of Bombay	20,000	500	all	10 p. c. 1 bon.	1,440
Bank of Bengal	40,000	500	all	10 pr. ct.	1,250
Bank of Madras	10,000	500	all	10 pr. ct.	1,225
Commercial & Ld. Mge.	10,025 15,000	1	110 75	10 p.c.	141
EXCHANGE BANKS.					
Agra	1,00,000	£10	all	5 pr. ct.	80
Charter Bank	40,000	£20	£20	7 pr. ct.	82
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	80,000	£125	all	£1-5s.	
National Bank of India	40,000	£25	£12½	6pr. ct.	305

MISCELLANEOUS.

	Shares.	Amount.	Paid-up.	Half yearly.	Cash Rate.
Alcock Ashdown	1,750	100	100	dvd Rs15	320
Asiatic Fire Insurance Co Ld	20,000	1,000	100	...	105
Back Bay Baths	500	50	50	12	45
Badham Pile	5,000	100	100	12	158
Bombay & Burma Trading Corporation	1,000	2,500	1,500	300	7,000
Do. New Issue	5,000	375	625	75	1,750
Bombay Ice Mfg. Co., Ld	1,250	100	100	dvd 3	65 xd
Bombay Land and Building Co. Ld.	400	500	500	5-pr. ct	501
Bombay Flour Mill	1,000	500	500	50	1,150
Deccan Paper Mills	1,000	500	500	5 pr. ct.	200
Delhi and Northern India Flour Mill	1,500	200	200	dvd Rs12	200
Delhi Cloth & General Mills Co., Ld.	2,800	250	250	8 pr. ct.	375
Indian Guarantee Surety Ship Assn	5,000	100	10	10 pr. ct.	16
John Roberts & Co.	1,300	100	100	10 pr. ct.	185
Kemp & Co.	4,000	200	175	21	360
Kurrachee Landing	5,000	500	300	31	182
Marcks & Co., Ld.	4,000	100	100	dvd Rs15	170
Napier Hotel Co	2,000	100	100	9 pr. ct.	10
Napier Foundry	1,000	100	200	...	60
Oriental Govt Security Life Insurance	5,000	200	50	12 pr. ct	145
Phillips & Co., Ld.	1,000	100	100	dvd Rs 6	90
Port Canning Co.	8,000	2,000	1,000	dvd Rs20	495
Soundy & Co.	1,000	100	100	5	60
Treacher & Co.	2,000	500	500	60	1,120
Thacker & Co.	1,500	100	100	135	150
Telephone Co.	9,200	251	100	dvd Rs11	28xd

RAILWAY COMPANIES.

	Shares.	Amount.	Paid-up.	Guarnt.	Cash Rate.
G. I. P. R. Consolidated Stock	...	£100	all	5 p. c.	
B. B. & C. I. R.	...	£ 18	...	do.	
Ahmedabad Prantej	4,000	100	500	...	175
The Tapti Valley	26,000	500	60	...	

SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANIES.

	Shares.	Amount.	Paid-up.	Half yearly.	Cash Rate.
Alliance	1,500	1,100	all	...	600
Anglo-Indian	1,300	...	100	Nil	5
Aurangabad S. & M. Co., Ld.	618	1,000	1,000	60	1,000
Bellary S. & W. Co., Ld. (Bellary)	871	60	all	9 per ct.	2
Bombay United	900	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.40	5
Bombay Cotton Manfg. Co	900	500	500	dvdRs.30	490
Bombay National Manfg. Co., Ld.	500	1,000	1,000	...	690
Britannia Mills	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.0	675
Central India	1,000	500	500	dvdRs.50	1,600
China Mills Co. Ld.	800	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.2	785
City of Bombay Mills	800	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.5	1,030xd
Coimbatore S and W	6,000	100	100	9 pr ct	125
Connaught Mills	600	500	50	25	720
Colaba Land & Mills	4,000	700	...	dvdRs.12	600
Coorla Mills	800	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.5	575
Currimbhoy Mill	800	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.60	1,030
David Mill	1,???	50	500	dvdRs.30	540
Dhun Mills	1,000	1,000	1,000	50	540
Empress	2,100	500	50	dvd 2	600
Framjee Petit	1,250	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.30	750
Hindustan	875	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.30	700
Hinganghat Mills	700	500	500	40	670
Howard and Bulloughs	1,100	500	500	2	720
Hope Mills	500	1,000	1,000	50	650
Hyderabad	700	1,000	1,000	40	1,515
Imperial Cotton	900	50	500	dvdRs.15	510
Indian Manfg.	900	1,000	1,000	50	1,020
Indo-China Manufacturing Co., Ld	700	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.50	775xd.
James Greaves	1,000	500	500	20	700
Jaffer Alli	600	500	500	dvdRs.20	225
Jamshed Manufacturing Co.	1,000	250	250	dvdRs.10	235xd.
Jewraj Balloo	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.20	900
Jubilee Mills Co., Ld.	843	1,000	1,000	20	575
Khandeish	750	1,500	1,000	dvdRs.30	775
Khangaum Manfg. Co.	400	25	250	Nil	950
Khatao Macunjee	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.35	750
Leopold	3,500	100	100	dvdRs.10	253
Lord Reay Mfg	400	1,000	1,000	30	800
Lakmidas Spinning & Weaving Co.	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.50	990xd.
Madras United	35	1,000	1,000	dvRs.100	3,400
Mahaluxmee	600	1,000	1,000	Nil	500
Mahboob Shah Mills (Gulburga)	8,400	500	500	15 pr ct.	...
Manockjee Petit	4,000	1,000	1,000	dvdRs100	2,445
Mazagon	5,000	250	250	dvdRs 4	150
Morarji Goculdas	1,050	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.75	2,125
Mysore S & M. Co., Ld.	4,000	250	250	dvdRs.15	250
Madura Mills	7,779	100	100	Nil	par
National	500	1,000	1,000	Nil	525
New Great Eastern	1,400	1,000	1,000	Rs. 20	400
Oriental	5,725	625	625	dvd Rs20	400
Presidency Mills, Co. (Ld).	743	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs50	1,250
Queen Mills	800	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs80	900
Ripon Mills	900	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs6	1,150
Sassoon	1,300	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs50	1,050
Sholapore Mills	500	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs60	1,675
Soonderdas	750	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs40	800
Southern India	1,000	500	500	15	125
Southern Mahratta	1,212	250	250	dv Rs.12½	355
Sun Mills, Ld.	1,300	250	250	dvdRs.20	300
Standard Mills Co.	1,600	500	500	22	350
Star of India	1,000	1,000	1,000	Nil	650
Swadeshi Mills	3,000	500	500	dvdRs.15	685
Sassoon and Alliance	3,000	500	500	dvdRs.15	600
Union Spinning and Manufacturing Co.	500	1,000	1,000	5	52
Union Mills Ld.	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.20	500
Venishunker Lukhmishunker Mill Co. Ld.	900	1500	900	dvdRs10	410xd.
Victoria Mills	500	1,000	1,000	Nil	775
Western India	1,200	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.50	90
Wadia Mills	1,000	1,000	1,000	..	...

PRESS COMPANIES.

	Shares.	Amount.	Paid-up.	Yearly.	Cash Rate.
Akbar	200	1,250	1,250	75	1,156
Albert Ginning Co.	100	500	all	18 pr. ct.	45
Albert (Kurrachee)	200	1,100	1,100	Rs 80	1,150
Bellary	167	1,000	1,000	dvd 14 8	225
Bhownuggur City Press & Manfg. Co. Ld	550	250	250	25	275
Bombay Cotton	1,000	125	125	dv Rs12½	110
Breul's Cawnpore Press Co., Ld.	500	200	200	11	180
Broach City Press Co. Ld	600	200	200	dvdRs25	250
Colaba	500	1,850	1,850	dvdRs15	305
East India	250	1,000	1,000	75	1,350
English Press and Manfg.	400	200	...	dvd Rs 8	95
Fort	150	8,500	7,000	25+80	1,100
French	300	500	500	dvd Rs20	510
Harvey and Sabapathy	400	150	300	dvd Rs40	320
Hingoli Press Co., Ld.	100	100	100	dvdRs11	137½
Khangaum	240	150	150	Rs 40	450
Mahuva Press Co., Ld.	300	200	all	15 pr. ct.	255
Mahim Sipura Cotton G. and P. Co., Ld.	200	500	500	3	70
Mercantile	1,000	125	125	dvd Rs 4	70
Mofussil Co.	3,125	100	100	dvd Rs20	360
Mummar M	1,000	25	all	15	100
New Berar	1,200	100	100	dvd Rs50	500
New Indian	4,000	125	125	dvd Rs5	115
Prince of Wales	100	500	500	25	175
Sabapathy	50	50	75	20	385
[illegible]	50	50	500	10	385
[illegible]	1,100	1,000		200	2,250
[illegible]	2,000	750		.0	720
[illegible]		250	250	Nil.	75
[illegible]		200	all	12	250
[illegible]				dvd Rs55	1,05

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BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Sun rises, 5h. 25m. Sun sets, 6h. 25m. High water, 10-28m., 10-12a. Low water, 3-38m., 4-16a.
China Mills meeting, Church Gate Street, 3-30 p.m.
Meeting of Hindus to adopt an address to the Queen-Empress, Town Hall, 3-30 p.m.
Concert, B. V. A., New Club rooms, Apollo Bunder, 9 p.m.
P. and O. s. s. Carthage, with English mails of the 30th ult., due to arrive, 6 a.m.

TO-MORROW.

Sun sises, 5h. 26m. Sun sets, 6h. 27m. High water, 11-17m., 11-5a. Low water, 4-21m., 5-8a.
Parsi Anti-Dowry Association, Mr. K. N. Kabraji's reading from "Vechailo Var," Novelty Theatre, 5 p.m.
Araya Samaj, Samaj Mandir Hall, 4-30 p.m.

PRINCE'S DOCK.—The steamer Idzumi Maru left the dock on Thursday.

READING FROM A GUJARATI COMEDY.—Under the auspices of the Parsi Anti-Dowry Association, Mr. K. N. Kabraji will give his third reading from his comedy "Vechailo Var," at the Novelty Theatre, to-morrow (Sunday), at 5 p.m. Ladies and gentlemen having cards for the first reading are invited to attend.

B. V. A. CONCERT.—The entry of the Bombay Volunteer Artillery Club into their new premises at Apollo Bunder will be marked this evening by a ladies' concert. A very attractive programme of nineteen items has been arranged, and the affair is sure to go off with the *eclat* which invariably attaches to concerts got up by the entertainment committee of the club.

MEETING OF CONDOLENCE.—A public meeting of Halai Cutchi and Ghoghari Lowanas will take place to-morrow (Sunday), at 4 p.m., in the Halai Lowana Majan Wadi, at Bhooleshwar, to express their deep regret for the untimely death of their caste-brother, Dr. Purshotam N. Davda, L. M. and S., and to forward a letter of condolence to the bereaved family.

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.—A public lecture will be delivered by Mr. David Gostling, at the Blavatsky Lodge, Theosophical Society, Bombay Branch, 37, Hornby Road, Fort, to-morrow (Sunday), at 6 p.m. Subject:—"Christ's method of healing by faith, through thought transference without medicine, and the successful application of this method in our present evil circumstances: Its universal application in our daily life." (VII, and last part.)

INSANITARY STABLES.—At the Esplanade Police Court, before Mr J. Sanders-Slater, Chief Presidency Magistrate, Mr. Sorabji Bomanji Master, Superintendent of Licenses, Bombay Municipality, charged Guya Amadin and nineteen other Gowlees with keeping milch cattle stables in Thomas Street, at Colaba, without license. The accused had kept their animals in temporary sheds which were in a most insanitary condition, and the ground was entirely fouled. The accused were fined from Rs. 5 to Rs. 20 each.

A CERTIFICATE OF NATURALISATION.—Mr. Rustom Meherban Aga, Persian, Arabic, and Hindustani translator and interpreter in the Bombay High Court, appeared on Wednesday before Mr. J. Sanders-Slater, Chief Presidency Magistrate, and applied for a certificate of naturalisation under Act 30 of 1852 of the Government of India, admitting him to all the privileges of a British-born subject. Mr. Rustom was born at Yezd, in Persia. He produced the necessary documents, and took the oath of allegiance to Her Majesty the Queen-Empress; and the certificate has been granted him.

POSTAL NOTICES.—Mails for Seychelles, Lamu, Mombassa, Zanzibar, Dare Salam, Mozambique, Ibo, Chinde, Baira, Inhambane, Delagoa Bay, Natal, Pretoria, Port Elizabeth, and Cape Colony, per extra s. s. Culna, will be closed at the General Post Office, at 1 p.m., on Monday, the 17th inst.—Mails for Lamu, Mombassa, Tanga, Zanzibar, Beira, Ibo, Chinde, Mozambique, Dare Salam, Delagoa Bay, Natal, Orange Free State, Transvaal, Rhodesia, East London, Algoa Bay, and Cape Colony, per extra s. s. Setos, will be closed at the General Post Office, at 5 p.m., on Monday, the 17th instant.

RUN OVER BY A RAILWAY TRUCK.—About noon on Wednesday, Jeejee, a Ghatee girl, aged about six years, while lying asleep on the rails at the dead end of a siding at the Malet Bunder siding, was accidentally run over by a railway truck, which was about three feet from the dead end, sustaining a severe contused wound about eight inches in length on the left thigh. The truck was set in motion by another truck, which had been shunted by a number of coolies employed by a coal contractor. The child had been left there by her mother, who was employed as a coal-labourer. The girl was conveyed to the J. J. Hospital and detained under treatment.

DEATH FROM BURNS.—An inquiry was held, yesterday, at the J. J. Hospital, by Mr. Turner, the coroner, regarding the death of Mahomed Ali, aged thirty-five, a Mahomedan hawker in fruit, having no relative in Bombay, and residing with a friend at Mutton Road. At midnight, about four or five days ago, deceased was blowing out a kerosine oil lamp which was burning in his friend's shop, when his hand accidentally struck against the lamp, which fell on him, setting his clothes on fire. He was extensively burnt all over his arms, legs, and stomach. He was removed to the J. J. Hospital, where fever set in, and he died on Thursday. A verdict of accidental death was returned by the jury.

THEFT AT NISHANPADA ROAD.—Valibhoy Ismail, a Khoja, residing on the second floor of a house at Nishanpada Road, retired to bed about 11 o'clock on Wednesday night, after having bolted the door from inside. About half-past 2 o'clock on the following morning, he was aroused by a policeman, who enquired if any of his property was missing. The complainant, on making an examination of his room, discovered his son's waistcoat, containing a metal watch, with a gold chain, twelve gold buttons, with gold chain attached, a currency note for Rs. 10, and Re. 1 in cash, collectively valued at Rs. 2??, was missing. It appears that the thief had entered the room through one of the windows, which had been left open by the complainant before going to bed, and was returning with the stolen property, when the neighbour of the adjoining house heard a noise on the roof and raised an alarm. The police came up, and went on to the roof, but the thief had in the meanwhile cleared away. The stolen cotton bundee was found on the roof minus its contents.

RUN OVER AND KILLED BY A LABOUR-CART.—Mr. Allan F. Turner, the coroner, held an inquiry, yesterday, at the Goculdas Tejpal Hospital, touching the death of Ramchundra Babaji, aged twenty-seven, a cart-driver, residing at Raichore Road. Deceased was addicted to drinking. About 10 o'clock on Wednesday night, Ramchundra, while under the influence of liquor, was driving his cart laden with gunny bags, along the Argyle Road. While the cart was in motion, he jumped down, and one of the wheels passed over him. He was picked up unconscious, bleeding from his mouth and ears, and conveyed to his house, where he was fomented. On the following morning his body swelled up, and he had difficulty in breathing. He was then removed to the Goculdas Tejpal Hospital, where it was ascertained that several ribs on both sides of the chest were fractured, and that the enormous distension and inflation of the face, neck, and body was due to the fractured ribs penetrating the lungs. He was detained under treatment, but owing to multiple injuries he died a few hours after admission. A verdict of accidental death was recorded.

MR. KABRAJI'S READING FROM HIS COMEDY.—Mr. Kaikhosro N. Kabraji gave his second reading from his comedy, *Vechailo Var*, under the auspices of the Parsi Anti-Dowery Association, on Sunday last, at the Novelty Theatre. The theatre was crowded, a large part of the audience being composed of Parsi ladies. Shams-ul-Ulma Jivanji J. Mody occupied the chair. Mr. Kabraji began by giving a *resumé* of his first reading for the benefit of those who had not heard it. He described the conversation that took place between Dadiba, the senior, and his would-be mother-in-law Hilloo regarding the terms on which the latter was to give her young daughter in marriage to this decrepit old man. Another scene described the marriage of the daughter of a wealthy Parsi of Broach with a Parsi L.R.C.P. (London), in which a dowry of ten thousand rupees was demanded by the bridegroom medico and paid by the girl's parents. The characters were drawn from Parsi life; the plot was essentially original, and vividly conveyed the moral. The dialogue, which was interesting in itself, was enlivened by a variety of songs specially composed by Mr. Kabraji, and were highly applauded by the audience. Mr. Kabraji will give his third and the last reading at the Novelty to-morrow (Sunday).

PLAGUE AND BURGLARY.—Mr. L. C. Da Costa, the proprietor of a tailoring establishment at De Lisle Road, has reported to the police that during his temporary absence from Bombay in consequence of the plague, his shop was broken into, and a quantity of tweeds, flannel, silk, etc., collectively valued at Rs. 1,073-11, stolen therefrom. It appears from the police enquiry that complainant left Bombay on the 5th February last, and on the 28th idem received a telegram from a neighbour, intimating that the lock on the back door of his shop was missing. Notwithstanding this, complainant did not return to Bombay until the 10th instant, and then discovered the property as before mentioned missing and reported the matter to the police. Police enquiries also elicited the facts that on the 9th February last a Hindu named, Kondaji Manaji, was arrested on suspicion at De Lisle Road with some pieces of tweed flannel, etc., in his possession, and a claimant having been found for some of the property, in the A Division, the man was charged before a magistrate and sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment. The remainder of the property, valued at Rs. 50, was detained in court and has now been identified by the complainant as a part of his property. A search is being made for the man Kondaji, who has since been released from the jail.

PRESIDENT FAURE is undoubtedly a graceful chief of the State. His visit to the Champ Elysées Salon on April 17th was an intermingling of the democratic and the regal. While Mme and Mlle. Lucie Faure, overladen with choice flowers and surrounded by Ministers and diplomatists with their wives, were awaiting him, the President quietly walked over from the Elysee with General Tournier, but without escaping the splendid ovation of the crowd round the Palais de l'Industrie. Amongst the pretty compliments paid to artists was one to Mlle. Sigrid Boelling Nansen's half sister, whose "Salmon Fishing in Norway" attracted him. "Je vous felicite," said M. Faure, "pour votre talent et pour votre parente."

IN his new edition of Bede's History, Mr. Plummer traces the origin of St. Patrick to a sentence in that work—"qui et patricius fuit"—relating to another person altogether. In other words, the story of St. Patrick, according to this learned, but iconoclastic commentator, turns out to be a snake story in more senses than one.

PLEASE SIR! Are you a Martyr to Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Habitual Constipation, Sick Headache, Liver and Kidney Affections, Anemia, Inflammation of the Bladder, Cramps and Pains in the Stomach, and Palpitation and Weakness of the Heart! Use BURGHAM'S QUICK TONIC, the best in the world. Sold at all respectable Chemists.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

AN indent for eight new locomotive engines with tenders fitted with vacuum brakes, at a cost of Rs. 2,06,000, has been sent Home by the Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway. The new locomotives are for use on the North-West Line in connection with the proposed fast-running Mail Service to be introduced between Raichore and Madras from the 1st July next.

THE Government of India has considered it advisable to help the Siam Government in the efforts it is making to properly administer its valuable forests, by further strengthening its staff of trained English foresters. In addition to Mr. Slade, Deputy Conservator, who has been at work in Siam for some 18 months, three more officers' Mr. Tottenham, Deputy Conservator, trained at Cooper's Hill, Mr. Healy, Extra Assistant Commissioner, and Mr. S. Wood, trained at Debra Dun, have now been sent to Siam. All these officers have been drawn from the Burma Forest Department, which is in consequence extremely shorthanded at the present moment.

A TELEGRAM, dated Camp Baradam, 8th May, says:—The road to the top of the Pass was completed to-day and all is now ready for the arrival of the relieving troops. Letters received to-day, from Dir state that the relieving troops are halting there for one day to rest the transport animals, so they will not be here till the 9th May. The health of the troops here continues excellent. Most of the cases of snow blindness have recovered. Lieutenant B. E. M. Gurdon, Assistant Political Agent, has arrived in camp with a numerous following to await the arrival of Major Deane, who is accompanying the relieving troops on a tour of inspection.

IT is proposed that a masked ball be given at the Bangalore Bowring Institute on the 22nd proximo to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee. A special feature of the entertainment will be that the members of the Committee and their wives will appear in costumes appropriate to various periods of Her Majesty's long reign.

A MEETING in connection with the Army Temperance Association will be held in the room of the United Service Institution at the Town Hall, Simla, next Monday afternoon. The Viceroy and the Commander-in-Chief will be among the speakers. On the same day a similar meeting will take place at the United Service Institution, Whitehall, at which Sir George Wolseley will speak.

IN the Simla Polo Tournament the ties have been drawn as follows:—First round, Black Watch vs. Patiala teams; Commander-in-Chief's Staff vs. 2nd team of the 16th Lancers; Viceroy's Staff vs. the 18th Hussars; the Rifle Brigade vs. the 17th Bengal Cavalry. Four teams have drawn byes, and they will meet in the second round as follows:—5th Dragoon Guards vs. 1st team 16th Lancers; the Royal Horse Artillery vs. the Bengal Cavalry team. The tournament will begin on this (Friday) afternoon and the final will be played on Saturday, the 22nd instant.

THE following telegram has been addressed by the Government of India to all Local Administrations and to the Resident at Hyderabad:—"Diamond Jubilee. It should be made generally known that all addresses presented will be forwarded to England, and that bodies or associations not desiring to present an address through a deputation can do so by forwarding it through the Local Government to the Government of India." It is understood that the Viceroy will receive such deputations as may visit Simla on June 21st or 22nd.

TWO young men lost their lives in the river on Saturday through their foolhardiness. The one W. Adshead, an *employe* in the telegraph office at Budge-Budge, and the other, G. Martin, also stationed at Budge-Budge, but employed in the Customs Department, engaged a boat and went across to Balasore, near Uluberia, to purchase fowls. On their return to the beach, the flood-tide was at its height, and, moreover, it was blowing hard, hence the *manji* refused to launch out. Despite the roughness of the elements and the warning of the *manji*, the young men insisted on proceeding at once, and when in mid-stream the sails were set out, being caught by a sudden gust, the boat capsized with its occupants. The crew, consisting of the *manji* and two *dandies*, managed to scramble up the overturned boat and thus saved themselves, whilst the young men were drowned. Their bodies have not yet been recovered.

TWO of the Kashmir Imperial Service Infantry battalions, writes an up-country paper, are now on their way to Gilgit. At present there are in the Agency three Infantry battalions, each 600 strong, but for the future the garrison is to consist of two battalions only, 700 strong each. The 6th Kashmir Infantry was mustered out last autumn, and on relief by the two augmented battalions, one of the three now at Gilgit will also be reduced. This will enable Kashmir to curtail her military expenditure somewhat while the efficiency of the remainder will be increased. The introduction of the levy system into the Agency, which has been much developed by Captain Godfrey, allows of this reduction, for now instead of being frittered away in holding small posts on the Hunza, Mastuj and Chilas lines, the troops can be concentrated at a few strategic points ready to strike promptly when needed. This while more economical should considerably add to their efficiency, as nothing can be so fatal to training and discipline of regiments as being split up into numerous small and isolated detachments.

THE recommendations of the Famine Fund Committee members, who sat at Simla a few days ago, have been sent down to the Calcutta members, who will meet on Tuesday evening and settle details of a further distribution of famine funds. It is understood that in the opinion of the members who met at Simla, Bengal is not in such need of further funds at the moment as other provinces. A reserve will doubtless be held in hand, for future grants in aid, which may be needed. The full subscriptions to the Famine Fund are expected to reach at least 130 lakhs.

SOME valuable information respecting the decline of trade and industry in the French Colonies of India has been forwarded to the Foreign Office by Captain L. H. Hawkes, British Consular Agent at Pondicherry. For the last ten years the trade of Pondicherry has been dwindling, and both imports and exports have diminished to a remarkable degree. In 1886, for the port of Pondicherry alone, the exports amounted to 24,345,000 francs and the imports to 8,351,000 francs. In 1895, though the imports remained unchanged, the exports were reduced in value to 13,264,000 francs, while during last year there has been a further fall of 15 per cent. To some extent the deterioration is ascribed by Captain Hawkes to the deleterious effect which a succession of bad seasons has had upon the ground-nut crops, but this alone could not explain the rapid decline which has been manifest during the last few years. Further light must be sought in other directions, and Captain Hawkes finds that the Government of India's Tariff Act of 1894 supplies the clue. The result of this Act has been to deflect the ground-nut trade to Cuddalore and other English ports of the Coromandel coast, and while not injuriously affecting English shipping it has increased the revenue of South Arcot by four lakhs.

MONDAY was the seventh day of the hearing of the bribery charges against Malik Ahmad Khan, Magistrate of the 1st Class. The Government waived its privilege in respect to a statement made by the Malik in answer to the Government last winter. The statement, which was read, asserts that the Malik took no bribes. If Kalu Shah or his Mohurrirs used any influence over the friends of suspected persons—although the Malik knew of no such influence—the Malik could not be held responsible. He received no bribe from the accused, nor was it his object in the course of the proceedings that he should favour any of the accused. "The accused (the statement proceeded) belong to Kullar and are followers of Baba Khem Singh. Baba Khem Singh is himself a resident of Kullar and there exists enmity between the Baba and the Tiwana family. Besides, I had before this committed a near relation of the Baba to the Sessions in the Nukrali case, and had on another occasion during last year bound over his relations and other inhabitants of Nukrali. If there are entries of bribes in the Baba's books or allegations of having bribed me in some other way these must be the outcome of the Baba's old enmity strengthened by ill-feelings produced by the above-mentioned facts, and I can say that these cases against me have been got up at his instigation and by his help. I have taken no bribes in the case, and had I taken any there was no reason why there should be applications for transfer of the case on behalf of the accused, who should have been satisfied after they had secured my favour by bribing me. If I was going to take bribes I should have taken them in one day, and there would be no applications for transfer of the case. It is a marvellous and incredible thing that a person who had once received bribes would go on making further demands, and in spite of all this would commit the accused to the Sessions. Is it likely that the application was caused to be filed by the accused on the morning of the 24th to show them favor, and Rs. 2,000 were received as bribes in the evening? Were I to take a bribe I would receive the money first and then cause the accused to present an application. It is therefore evident that I received no bribes at all. All this has been fabricated by the help of Baba Khem Singh, Sujan Singh and the Rawalpindi Bar." He concludes: "I have received no bribe and refunded nothing. Eventually the magistrate framed charges under Sections 161 and 384 of the Penal Code against the Malik and his Mohurrir. The second case was then gone into, but the magistrate dismissed it on the grounds of insufficient evidence. There are two more cases.

COLONEL W. B. WARNER, Colonel on the Staff, Southern Shan States, is transferred to Bellary; and Colonel E. B. Anderson, on appointment as Colonel on the Staff, is posted to the Southern Shan States.

WITH reference to the subscription of £1,273 from the little colony of Fiji to the Famine Charitable Relief Fund, the Hon. James Murray states that of the total amount subscribed the East Indian population gave £811, and that besides this a sum of no less than £1,053 has been remitted by individual coolies to friends and relations in India during the past four months.

THE trade and navigation returns of British India for the year up to March 31st show an increase of eighty over 2¼ crores in the imports and a decrease of 9¼ crores in exports, leaving a total deficit of 7 crores. Under the head of imports the main increases are in cotton piece-goods and railway plant. Under the head of exports nearly every item shows a decrease, the chief being wheat, rice, oilseeds, and cotton. The only three articles that show any appreciable increase are tea, jute, and cotton yarn.

THE consignments of grain booked from Sindh to the Punjab and North-West Provinces on Tuesday amounted to 1,083 maunds.

THE Government of India have considered it advisable to help the Siam Government in the efforts they are making to properly administer their valuable forests by further strengthening their staff of trained English foresters. In addition to Mr. Slade, Deputy Conservator, who has been at work in Siam for some 18 months, three more officers, Mr Tottenham, Deputy Conservator, trained at Cooper's Hill, Mr. Healey, Extra Assistant Commissioner, and Mr. S. Wood, trained at Dehra Dun, have now been sent to Siam. All these officers have been drawn from the Burma Forest Department, which is in consequence extremely shorthanded at the present moment.

AT the meeting of the Trustees of the Madras Harbour on the 23rd ultimo, Mr. Scott said that as this was the last meeting of the Board over which Mr. Austin would preside—as he was about to retire and go home—he proposed that the Trustees place on record their appreciation of his services to the Trust, and of his unvarying courtesy in the discharge of his duties as Chairman, and in taking leave of Mr. Austin wished him the best of health to long enjoy his pension in retirement. Captain Street seconded the proposal, which was carried unanimously. Mr. Austin responded and wished the Trustees every success individually, as well as collectively as a Board representing the interests of the trade of this port as connected with the harbour.

THE Committee of the Indian Jute Manufacturers' Association have addressed the Bengal Government regarding municipal representation. They urge that under the system of representation in mofussil municipalities the representatives of the mill-owners are in a "permanent, hopeless and useless minority." They also point out that the triennial elections taking place all over Bengal have resulted in the return of an overwhelming majority of Hindus; but as the Government has a right to nominate a certain quota of commissioners, the committee express the hope that the Lieutenant-Governor will see the desirability of strengthening these municipalities by the appointment of as many Europeans as possible. Serampore is quoted as an instance of a condition of things which has been very unfavourably reported upon as regards sanitation. Yet here are three large jute mills, employing many thousands of hands. If the plague were to appear in the town it would probably lead to the closing of the trade of Calcutta to the world.

A REPORT by Dr. Banks on the conservancy of Calcutta reveals the scandalous state of the municipal administration. "With the present establishment," Dr. Banks says, "I am at a loss to know how the conservancy is ever to be satisfactorily carried on." Again, "The supervising establishment consists for the most part of men absolutely untrustworthy and ignorant of the most rudimentary principles of sanitation, and who have not been selected because of their qualifications or fitness for such appointments." . . . "The hired cart system is neither more nor less than a gigantic fraud, and I am astonished that such a system should have been tolerated so long. There is no contract of any kind and lakhs of rupees have been paid for work which has never been done." These are only a few specimen quotations. Dr. Bank's report is annotated by Dr. Simpson who characterises it as "A valuable report".

THE difficulty of obtaining good non-commissioned officers in a short-service army has been felt in France perhaps even more than with us, and to remedy this evil an important law on the re-engagement of non-commissioned officers has just been voted. The matter is not a novelty, for the Chamber of Deputies adopted it in March, 1896, but the ratification of the Upper House, which was wanting to make it legal, has now been given, and the decree embodying the measure has appeared in the "Journal Officiel." By the law of March 18, 1889, considerable inducements to re-engage were held out to non-commissioned officers with such success that the number of re-engagements rose from 16,000 in 1889, to 24,000 in 1893. But the law of July 25, 1893, which was brought forward with the idea of reducing serious incursions on the budget caused by the success of the measure alluded to, diminished the gratuity accorded by one-half. This law stipulated, moreover, that a non-commissioned officer who accepted promotion to the rank of officer lost ipsofacto, all rights to the annual gratuity obtained, and had to refund it. The effect of this penny-wise and pound-foolish policy was to reduce the number of re-engagements to 15,946 on January 1, 1896.

"THE announcement that the site of Pope's villa at Twickenham has been located," writes a correspondent, "leads me to call attention to a relic of the poet, who did for Homer what Dryden did for Virgil, which is frequently seen and seldom identified. In the Guildhall Museum there is a bronze representing two lunatics, life size, and a notice attached states that the work formerly crowned the gate of Bedlam Hospital, and that the artist was Caius Gabriel Cibber. Here our 'Patres Conscripti' end their story, omitting the point of greatest interest. When Pope issued the second edition of the Dunciad, Colley Cibber, with whom he had quarrelled, was elevated to the throne of the Dunces, and his Court represented to be outside Bedlam,

> Where o'er the gates by his famed father's hand
> Great Cibber's brazen, brainless brothers stand.

It would, I think, interest many who, like myself, have searched in vain around Bedlam for these famous statues, to know that the Corporation of London has preserved 'Great Cibber's brazen, brainless brothers,' and that they can be seen at the Guildhall. It would be equally interesting to visitors to the Museum if they were informed of the associations existing between the bronze and 'the little man of Twickenham.'"

IN consequence of the falling off in the numbers in the First Class Army Reserve in 1895, it was last year decided to resume enlistments for the Supplemental Reserve (Section D), and this section was accordingly reopened on the 1st of April last. The results of this step are eminently satisfactory, as upwards of 4,000 men were enlisted in the Supplemental Reserve during the remaining nine months of the year, and consequently the First Class Reserve as a whole, which during 1895 fell off to the extent of nearly 5,000 men, has not only maintained its numbers, but once more shows a tendency to attain the total of 80,000 at which it is hoped to always maintain it, the numbers on the 1st January last being 78,100.

THE Committee of Lloyd's have decided to bestow their silver medal on Second Officer J. H. Collin, of the British steamer Sultan, in acknowledgment of his exertion in saving life at sea. On the voyage of the Sultan from Calcutta to Aden in July last very rough weather was experienced, and on the 28th, in a very heavy sea off the Island of Socotra, a Lascar fireman fell overboard. He managed to secure a lifebuoy, but was lost sight of. The steamer manœuvred round the spot, but when he was again sighted it was impossible, on account of the high seas, to launch a boat. Second Officer Collin sprang overboard with a line, swam after the man, and attached the rope to him. The Lascar, who had been nearly three hours in the water was pulled on board, perfectly exhausted. Mr. Collin incurred extreme risk, not only on account of the very heavy sea, but by reason of the presence of sharks, several of which had been seen round the steamer.

THE report of Captain J. H. Thomson, R.A., one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Explosives, to the Secretary of State for the Home Department, on the circumstances attending the accident which occurred at the Hamoaze, Devonport Harbour, in connection with the dredging operations carried out for the Admiralty by Messrs. Hill and Co., contractors, on December 30th last, has been issued. It may be remembered that whilst some blasting operations were in progress for the purpose of improving the entrance to Devonport Harbour, a flat-bottomed barge, on which were 49 men, sank and three were drowned. The Inspector, after stating that the vessel was moored 150ft. from the scene of blasting—a distance considered absolutely safe in the light of all previous experience, having regard to the amount of the explosive fired—says: "In point of fact, the accident appears to be absolutely unique. Not only was the character of the damage to the barge unprecedented in submarine explosions, but the distance at which the effect was produced is also beyond all previous experience. The accident must therefore be ascribed to some very abnormal form of wave action produced by the explosion, aided doubtless by the elasticity of the planks of which the vessel's side was constructed." Captain Thomson [illegible] consider that any blame attaches to any [illegible] dent.

THE DIAMOND JUBILEE AND THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY ASSOCIATION.

THE following is the address of the above association to Her Imperial Majesty:—

May it please Your Imperial Majesty.—We have been instructed by the Council of the Bombay Presidency Association to join our fellow-countrymen from other parts of India in the thanks-givings and rejoicings of all classes of your majesty's subjects in this vast Empire, who with one voice celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of your Majesty's accession to the throne, and we beg to submit this humble and loyal address giving expression to the wish of all classes of people in our Presidency that the God of all nations will grant a long continuance of all those blessings which it has pleased him to confer on your most gracious Majesty during the past sixty years.

The Town and Island of Bombay justly claims to be the most ancient possession of the Crown in India, and the Bombay Presidency is the oldest Provincial Government constituted under the orders of the late East India Company, to whom Bombay was transferred by the Crown 230 years ago. During that long interval, Bombay has prospered in every way till it now claims to be the second city in the Empire, the chief emporium of British trade with the East, and the centre of British influence in Western Asia and Eastern Africa. During the sixty years of your Majesty's reign its population has increased six-fold, and its trade has multiplied ten-fold, while its manufacturing activity has made it the Lancashire of the East. Our Association represents the chief central political organization in Western India, which seeks loyally to co-operate in the work of good government by representing to the authorities the wishes and wants of the people, and interpreting the acts of Government to those intimately affected thereby. Such co-operation of independent public opinion constitutes the highest triumph of your Majesty's rule in India, and the noblest vindication of the reign of law which your Majesty has established throughout your Indian dominion.

Your Majesty has been graciously pleased to confer on the people of this country by your Proclamations and Acts of Parliament, many of the rights and privileges which are enjoyed by your Majesty's British subjects at home, as also in the self-governing colonies scattered throughout the globe, and our highest aspiration is to be allowed to claim equality with them in all respects. On this auspicious occasion, we feel it to be our loyal duty to express our deep sense of those high privileges and of the beneficial educative influence exercised by the concession of the liberties we already enjoy. During the first twenty years of your Majesty's reign the country was disturbed by wars of conquest which extended the frontiers of the Empire on all sides. The domestic policy of the Government of the East India Company was characterized by an aggressive spirit of annexations and resumptions, which ultimately led to the disastrous mutiny of 1857, and induced your gracious Majesty to assume the direct rule of this country in your hands. Since then internal tranquility has been undisturbed for the past forty years. The gracious Proclamation issued by your Majesty in 1858, and confirmed in 1877, when your Majesty assumed the title of the Empress of India, was welcomed by all classes not only for the amnesty it granted for the past, but for the solemn pledges it gave to the Princes and people of this country that the policy of annexation and lapse was for ever abandoned, and that your Majesty desired nothing more sincerely than to promote the general welfare of all classes and to train them gradually to appreciate the higher privileges of being the subjects of your Majesty's extended Empire.

With this view after peace had been established, and public confidence restored, your Majesty enlarged the constitution of the Supreme and local legislative Councils for making laws and regulations, and for the first time associated representative Indian gentlemen in the work of legislation as additional members of these Councils. After watching this experiment for thirty years, your Majesty was pleased in 1892, to introduce the elective element in the constitution of these Councils, and to confer on them the power of interpellating Government on questions of administration, and of discussing the budget. About the same time, uniform codes of law were introduced which sought as far as possible to secure equality before the Court, of all classes of your Majesty's subjects. The distinction of Crown Courts and Company's Courts was abolished by the creation of the new High Courts, and natives of the country were held eligible to occupy seats in these Courts, and at the present day seven superior judgeships are so held by Indian gentlemen. The right of trial by jury in more serious criminal cases was also conferred for the first time outside the presidency-towns and in all sessions' cases where the trials are not so held, native assessors help the judges with their intimate knowledge of local habits. The competitive examinations for the Civil Service and the other minor services were also opened to all classes of your Majesty's subjects on the same terms, (except that Indian students have to go to England), with the result that a small proportion of the natives of this country have found entrance into all these services, and some have risen to be district judges and collectors and even commissioners of division. The medical, engineering and forest services have also been similarly thrown open. About the same time the cause of education, both higher and lower, was encouraged by the creation of special departments and the establishment of Indian universities in all the great provinces. With the view of developing the resources of the country, the great system of through-railways connecting all parts of India, at first planned by Lord Dalhousie through the agency of guaranteed railway companies, was pushed on by the state departmental agency till the country now boasts more than 20,000 miles of railway in which British and to a smaller extent, native capital has found safe and secure investment. The shackles which fettered the liberty of the press in the early days of the Company were removed, and the right to criticize public men and measures and to meet in public assemblies, and petition the Crown on public matters has become firmly established in the consciousness and the habits of the people. Municipal and district boards for the promotion of works of sanitation and public convenience and for fostering popular education were established throughout the country, and latterly these Boards have been strengthened by the introduction of the elective element in their constitution, and by the concession to them of the right of electing members to the Legislative Councils.

In all these various ways, the peace and prosperity of the country have been promoted with the result that during the past 60 years, population has multiplied nearly 100 per cent., cultivation has extended so as to keep pace with this growth, and trade and commerce have flourished beyond all previous measure and been beneficial both to England and India. India has become the chief customer of British manufacture and trade, and it affords a safe investment for the employment of nearly 500 millions of British capital in the development of Indian agriculture, manufacture and trade. The bonds which unite the two countries have thus become indissoluble, and under British protection the various races of India, speaking different languages, and professing different creeds, have learnt to feel for the first time that the connection between the two countries is a providential arrangement intended to weld them all together into a great Indian nation, owning common allegiance to the same Sovereign, and having common interests in the promotion of peace and good-will throughout the land.

Of course, famine and pestilence, poverty and want have not been banished from the land. The past year has been specially unfortunate in this respect, but in the midst of their trials and sufferings the people of India, both high and low, cherish the conviction that your most gracious Majesty feels for her Indian children the tenderness of a mother's love, and the splendid results of the relief fund started for their help on this occasion, as also in 1877, attest to the fact that the great British nation feels the warmest sympathy for the distress of their fellow-subjects in India. The battle against famine, plagues and want is being waged with a vigour and success unknown before. It is true that the poverty, ignorance and helplessness of large masses of the nation are phenomenal, that the industrial resources of the country still remain to a large extent undeveloped, and that the estrangement of races and creeds is still powerful for mischief; but the moral and material agencies at work are slowly but surely laying the axe at the root of all these and other evils. The English language has become the *lingua franca* of all the educated classes throughout the country, and English science and literature is slowly teaching them to breathe in the higher atmosphere of human dignity and freedom. The increased facilities of communication have removed the barriers which separated the various races from co-operating and sympathising with one another.

Your Majesty's rule in India thus typifies to a large extent all these moral and material agencies tending towards unification and solidarity of interests and inspires us all with a firm trust that in course of time all the disabilities from which we now suffer, some of them due to traditions of conquest and many of them the creation of our own past history, will be removed, and we shall be fitted by this discipline to take our proper place along with your Majesty's British subjects in defence of the common interests of the Imperial Greater Britain which has grown up under your Majesty's fostering care during the past 60 years in all the quarters of the globe, and India will become what poets have described it to be the brightest jewel in the British Crown.

In this hope and confidence we tender our homage of love and loyalty to the Throne, and we pray that God Almighty may bestow His choicest blessings upon your Gracious Majesty, upon their Royal Highnesses, the Prince and Princess of Wales and the other members of the royal family.—We beg, &c.

(Sd.) PHEROZESHAH M. MEHTA,
President and Chairman of the Council.
N. G. CHANDRAVARKAR,
A. M. DHARAMSI,
Honorary Secretaries.

Bombay, May 1897.

THE Lyceum premiere on Saturday night was a particularly brilliant one. Among the distinguished people present were the Duke and Duchess of Teck (attended by Miss Tufnell and the Hon. Sidney Greville), the Duke of Cambridge, the Duchess of St. Albans, the Marquis and Marchioness of Granby, Sir Francis and Lady Grenfell, Lord and Lady Skelmersdale, Mr. and Mrs. Asquith, Sir George Lewis, Sir Frederick Milner, M. P., the Earl and Countess of Londesborough and Lady Mildred Denison, Lady Grey Egerton, M. Coquelin, Mr. and Mrs. Pinero, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Higgins, Signor Tosti, Mr. Anthony Hope, Sir John and Lady Lister Kaye, and the Right Hon. Charles and Mrs. Stuart-Wortley.

ONE of the most curious illustrations of the spirit of the age we have seen for some time appears in the agony column of the *Morning Post*: "A young lady, owing to the illness of her mother," so runs the advertisement, "wishes to be chaperoned for May and June." Whenever in the coming season one meets an American or Colonial girl chaperoned by a Titled Lady, a terrible suspicion will occur that it is all a "put-up job." For on Tuesday a "Titled Lady" advertised in the *Times* that she would "chaperon and introduce a young lady into the very highest society." And then we were further told that "American and Colonial girls wishing to have a good season in town are invited to communicate.

YOUR OLD FRIEND.—There is a sense of comfort in a good old friend, which no new friendship can supply. CLEAVER'S TEREBENE SOAP is your good old friend, for it has outstayed and beaten the hosts of Soaps which, during the last 20 years, have been introduced. And why is this? Because it really possesses the properties claimed for it. It is the best Soap for the Skin and Complexion ever known. It completely relieves the irritation resulting from prickly heat, the bites and stings of insects, and other similar causes. Its perfume is simply that of the pine, the most soothing and healing scent in the world.

MR. HARKISANDAS'S CHARITY.

THE following extract from the proceedings of the Government of Bombay, in the General Department, dated the 5th May, was issued as a Government resolution yesterday:—

In June last, Mr. Harkisandas Narotamdas offered to place at the disposal of Government a sum of Rs. 30,000, set apart by his mother, the late Bai Putlibai, for charitable purposes in connection with the Nowpada Lunatic Asylum. From a memorandum accompanying Mr. Harkisandas's letter, in which the objects of the fund were described, it appeared that help to pauper high-class Hindu inmates of the institution, with a view to enable them to perform their customary religious rites and ceremonies, was to be the first charge on the income of the fund, and that the balance of the income was to be devoted towards supplementing the diet, clothing, and medical comforts provided in the institution and towards providing such forms of amusement or entertainment as would not only amuse, but, if possible, help to cure or relieve the mental ailments from which high-class Hindu and other inmates of the Asylum might be suffering. Government were, however, unable to undertake the necessary arrangements for religious observances which the acceptance of the gift in the form proposed would have entailed, and on this decision being communicated to Mr. Harkisandas, he expressed his willingness to waive the provisions of the scheme with regard to religious observances and to so far modify it as to make the income of the fund applicable to the other objects mentioned above. His Excellency the Governor-in-Council has, therefore, much pleasure in accepting the generous offer of Mr. Harkisandas, and has directed that arrangements be made to vest the money under the Charitable Endowments Act. His Excellency in Council further desires to express his appreciation of this liberal benefaction which will greatly contribute to the relief of the inmates of the Asylum.

THE LATE DR. DAVDA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—I understand that a subscription list has already been set on foot by the friends and admirers of Dr. Davda to perpetuate his memory amongst his community and friends. Dr. Davda was cut off in the prime life by the dire disease, and he appears to have contracted the disease in the discharge of his duties. I venture to suggest that it would be a fitting recompense for the labours of the deceased gentleman, if, instead of wasting the fund on some worthless bauble as a memento, it is devoted to some scheme for the support of his family who, I believe, were entirely dependent on him for their support and are left destitute of all means by his untimely death. I dare say a good many sympathizers will be coming forward with their donations for this object.—Yours, &c., A SYMPATHIZER.

THE WEATHER.

OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT 8 A.M., ON FRIDAY, THE 14TH OF MAY, 1897.

1. The barometric readings are corrected to Calcutt standard, reduced to the same temperature M° and also to the sea level and corrected to the constant gravity at a Lat, 45.
2. The 2nd column under the head 'Wind' gives the average motion of the air in miles per hour during the past 24 hours, and is obtained by dividing the total number of miles of wind registered by an anemometer during the previous 24 hours by 24.
3. The temperatures given in the table are of the air in the shade or in a small shed with open sides and a thatched or straw roof. The maximum (max.) and minimum (min.) temperatures are the highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours preceding 8 a. m.
4. The humidity is given as a percentage expressing rates of the actural amount of moisture in the air to the amount required to saturate it.

STATIONS.	Pressure, 8 A.M.	WIND. Direction.	WIND. Rate per hour.	TEMPERATURE IN SHADE. Maximum of past 24 hours	TEMPERATURE IN SHADE. Minimum of past 24 hours	Humidity, 8 A.M.	RAINFALL. Past 24 hours.	RAINFALL. Since 1st Nov. to date.	RAINFALL. Variation, 1st Nov. to date.
Lahore	29·632	NE	2	104·1	74·1	29	...	3·22	−1·09
Sirsa	29·650	ENE	6	102·3	78·9	11	...	1·68	−0·71
Delhi	29·620	ESE	5	101·2	81·9	26	...	1·26	−2·98
Agra	29·577	SE	1	109·0	81·7	31	...	1·41	−0·27
Cawnpore	29·635	SSE	1	108·0	80·6	17	...	2·67	...
Allahabad	29·605	E	7	109·6	81·3	63	...	1·20	−0·92
Jhansi	29·621	NW	3	111·7	82·2	22	...	3·15	+1·42
Jacobabad	29·521	E	3	116·1	87·0	25	...	0·60	−0·79
Karachi	29·571	WSW	14	91·8	79·5	87	...	0·27	−1·57
Jeypore	29·653	W	5	111·3	82·9	60	...	1·78	−0·4
Ajmere	29·662	W	11	107·1	86·0	50	...	2·11	+0·36
Deesa	29·735	SW	18	106·4	77·0	46	...	1·51	+0·92
Ahmedabad	29·773	SSW	5	105·3	79·6	57	...	0·91	...
Bhuj	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rajkot	29·767	SW	18	101·4	74·2	68	...	1·80	+1·29
Ghadechi	29·771	WSW	14	109·7	73·3	49	...	0·90	...
Veraval	29·759	W	8	85·6	79·3	88	...	3·70	...
Neemuch	29·725	WSW	1	107·0	79·6	37	...	2·12	+0·85
Indore	29·737	W	1	106·0	77·1	4	...	5·05	−0·51
Saugor	29·61	W	7	109·9	86·1	49	...	5·23	+0·36
Jubbulpore	29·661	WSW		109·	81·1	24	...	4·07	−0·78
Hoshangabad	29·710	WNW	2	111·1	87·6	36	...	1·53	−0·68
Khandwa	29·731	W	13	108·2	85·6	43	...	1·1	−0·31
Raipur	29·63	Calm	6	111·0	83	25	...	5·19	+2·43
Nagpur	29·652	NNE	9	111·	81·0	27	...	2·27	−1·16
Amraoti	29·687	WNW	9	111·9	8·7	1	...	4·50	+1·36
Akola	29·72	WNW	9	111·6	81·2	45	...	1·35	−1·57
Surat	29·7 8	WSW	10	94	79·1	65	...	0·79	+0·43
Malegaon	29·757	Calm		105·0	75·1	61	...	0·49	−0·90
Bombay	29·821	N	8	87·8	81·0	71	...	0·51	−0·9
Poona	29·778	W	18	104·5	69·4	25	...	1·42	−1·13
Ahmednagar	29·755	NNW	16	106·3	70·4	63	...	2·17	...
Aurangabad	29·733	S		98·6	78·7	31	...	0·35	...
Sholapur	29·73	NW	12	106·7	75·6	27	...	6·85	+3·70
Ratnagiri	29·8 3	NW	5	91·4	78·9	72	...	0·21	−0·06
Belgaum	29·741	NNE	5	95·		72	...	0·8	−1·60
Goa	29·811	NW	17	89·0	80·4	72	...	0·0	...
Karwar	29·806	NW	11	89·3	78·5	74	...	0·24	−3·11
Mangalore	29·82	NW	5	90·8	81·4	72	...	5·0	−0·89
Calicut	29·820	Calm	4	92·3	79·0	78	...	21·24	+8·72
Cochin	29·830	Calm	M	90·8	82·6	81	...	20·62	+0·93
Bangalore	29·781	WSW	13	97·3	72·7	6	...	6·82	−0·72
Secunderabad	29·693	NW	7	109·3	82·2	31	...	2·5	−1·78
Masulipatam	29·767	S	10	101·2	84·5	76	...	11·99	+2·77
Bellary	29·725	NW	11	105·2	82·8	29	...	2·83	−1·11
Cuddapah	29·702	NW	L	111·8	87·0	31	...	5·21	−1·53
Madras	29·748	SW	10	102·6	88·5	73	...	31·25	+20·52
Coimbatore	29·787	W	3	94·4	74·8	73	...	9·71	+0·27
Trichinopoly	29·772	WNW	7	97·8	78·3	72	...	22·37	+10·13
Negapatam	29·765	SW	12	105·6	83·9	6	...	47·75	+10·06
Colombo	29·828	SW	13	84·5	82·	79	...	32·28	+5·69
Aden	29·788	E	7	94·8	83·3	71	...	0·07	−3·98

In column "Wind Rate per hour," L=Light, M=Moderate F=Fresh, S=Strong, H=Heavy.

SUMMARY.

Pressure has decreased briskly to rapidly at Ratnagiri, Sholapur, Belgaum, Goa, Karwar, Secunderabad, Bellary and Cuddapah, and has been steady or has changed only slightly elsewhere. Readings are lowest in the north, and highest along the coast from Bombay southwards as far as Colombo. Gradients are moderate. Winds remain practically unchanged, and the force has been strong to light. This morning the wind velocity was 24 miles an hour at Neemuch, 18 at Rajkot and Akola, 17 at Ghaderhi and Ajmere, and 14 at Karachi, Khandwa and Nagpur. The maximum temperature is in large to very large excess of the normal at Jacobabad, Jeypore, Raipur, Nagpur, Sholapur, Bangalore, Secunderabad, Masulipatam, Cuddapah and Negapatam, and the minimum in very large excess in Sind. The highest temperature in the shade was 116° at Jacobabad and Nagpur, and the lowest 65° at Belgaum. Humidity changes are unimportant, and the skies are cloudy to overcast on the Malabar Coast and at Colombo. There has been no rain at any of the reporting stations. The pressure difference between Colombo and Seychelles as observed at 8 a.m, yesterday was very small, and indicates the probability of light winds over the sea between the two places. In consequence of this the wind is moderate to light at Colombo, and the sea is slight. The barometric readings taken at Colombo and Aden show that the south-westerly winds are somewhat increasing in force over the Arabian Sea lying to the south of Lat. 13° and beyond Long. 60° E. Condition are slightly favourable for local rain on the Malabar Coast. A special telegram received from Capetown yesterday states: "South-east summer weather continues abnormally late for season; winds generally light steady with little barometric movement." Yesterday's telegram from Seychelles states: Barometer "29·910", and moderate to light south-east trades."

W. C. NIGEL JONES,
Acting Meteorological Reporter for Western India.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]

SIMLA, MAY 14.

Friday: The barometer has fallen briskly in Lower Burma and a small storm lies over Rangoon and Bassein. The winds are strong on the Burma coasts and a good deal of rain has fallen over Burma. Elsewhere the barometric changes are comparatively unimportant and the distribution is similar to that reported yesterday. Easterly winds continue up the Gangetic Plain, but elsewhere except for the cyclonic circulation over Lower Burma. The directions are fairly normal. Mean temperature has risen in Sind and Rajputana, fallen in Burma and been steady elsewhere. Heat is much less than usual in Burma, slightly less in North Bengal, South Madras and North Punjab, but elsewhere excessive. The following maxima are reported:—Jacobabad a hundred and sixteen, Nagpur and Hyderabad, a hundred and fifteen, Chanda a hundred and fourteen, and Raipur and Nellore a hundred and thirteen. In addition to heavy rain in Burma showers have fallen in parts of Bengal and Assam. Elsewhere the weather has been dry. Bassein reports nearly four; and Tavoy, Bassein, Toungoo, Thayetmyo, Yamethin, Taunggyi and Jalpaiguri over one inch.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

GOVERNMENT OBSERVATORY, COLABA.
Bombay, 13th May, 1897.
Means of observations taken at 5 a.m., 10 a.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Barometer corrected 32 deg. Fah ....inches 29·827
Temperature of the Air ....degrees 85·0
Wet Bulb Thermometer .... 77·9
Dew Point .... 75·4
Relative humidity of Air .... ·732
Extent of cloudy sky: the whole sky clouded = 10 .... 2·6
Maximum temperature of air (read at 8 a.m.) next day) ....degrees 89·8
Minimum do. do. (read at 8 a.m) .... 80·1
General Directions of wind* ... WNW, NW, WNW, W, WNW.
Movement of Wind in 24 hours* ....miles 211
* From midnight to midnight.

N. A. F. MOOS,
Director, Government Observatory

MRS. JOHN HAYS HAMMOND in her book "A Woman's Part in a Revolution," recounts how the Johannesburg Reformers' wives and others smuggled eatables to them in jail. "The world," says Mrs. Hammond, "has never seen such wholesale smuggling as was practised by these devoted women. Mrs. Solly Joel, as she passed daily through the prison gate, was a complete buttery. The crown of her hat was filled with cigars, suspended from her waist, under her dainty summer silk skirt, hung a bottle of cream. Tied to her back by way of a bustle was a brace of ducks, or a roasted fowl wrapped neatly in linen. She said this gave her a slightly out-of-date appearance; but she did not mind that. Under her cape Mrs. Clement wore a good-sized Bologna sausage around her waist as a belt; this was in time adroitly removed by Mr. Clement. Another lady supplied the prisoners with tins of sardines and beef essence, which she carried concealed in her stockings. Occasional vagaries on the part of these affectionate wives were subsequently explained to the complete satisfaction of their captive lords. Mrs. Butler's coyness and refusal to be embraced because of the flask of coffee in her bosom is an instance of this."

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

THE Clan Line s s Clan Macneil, 1,591 tons, Captain W Price, sailed yesterday for Tuticorin, in ballast.

THE B I S N Co's s s Assyria, 970 tons, Captain G F Simpson, which arrived in harbour on Thursday evening from the Persian Gulf via Karachi, brought a general cargo, 33 cases opium, 224 kegs of gun-powder and the following passengers:—Lieut Kirkpatrick, Mr and Mrs Patterson, Risaldar Major Faiz Khan and 81 deck.

VESSELS IN DOCKS.—MAY 14.

PRINCE'S DOCK.

Shi.	Vessels.	Ton.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.*	Agents.
A	Clan Macneil	1591	Price	Madras	15-5	F M & Co
C	N Mohtri	1110	Clark	Not fixed	17-5	B I S N Co
E	B Ardrossan	1425	McNeill	Trieste	...	W & A G Co
F	Goa	12 7	Plummer	Zanzibar	20-5	B I S N Co
O	Setos	1151	Jacobs	Zanzibar	16-5	F Heyer

VICTORIA DOCK.

Shd.	Vessels.	Ton.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.	Agents.
1	Arabia	2331	Read	Marsillies	12-5	W A G Co
2	Ida	1595	Jennigs	Havre	...	E Bates & Co
3	D Balduino	3014	Canepa	Genoa	27-5	F Messari
7	Hydaspes	3500	Lockyer	Hongkong	...	P & O Co
10	Sheik	2528	Nash	Ant & Liverpool	...	K N & Co
12	Caledonia	3528	Andrews	London	15-5	P & O Co
15	Culna	2000	Thomas	Delagoa Bay	15-5	M M & Co

HARBOUR WALL.

Vessels.	Ton.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.	Agents.
Dumra	762	Russell	Karachi	15-5	M M & Co

* Probable date of departure.

Time Ball drops at Prince's Dock at Noon or Greenwich meantime, 7h. 8m. 44·3s.

The Time Ball over the Clock Tower at the Bombay Castle continues to be dropped regularly at 1 p.m. of Colaba Meantime, or 8h. 8m. 44·30 of Greenwich meantime.

DEPARTURES.

May.	Vessel.	Commander.	Destination.
14	Bedouin s	Godwin	Calcutta.
	Nawab s	Corran	Calcutta, &c.
	Salazie s	Paul	Marseilles.
	Clan Macneil s	Price	Tuticorin.

The steamer Arabia, Captain Read, obtained her port-clearance yesterday for Marseilles and Liverpool.

CALCUTTA.

ARRIVALS.

May.			
10	Brenda sp	Gifford	New York, Jan 25.
	Sumatra s	Cowie	London, April 9.

DEPARTURES.

May 10.—Steamers Africa, Sindhana and Colaba.

DAILY EXPORTS.—MAY 14.

FOR LIVERPOOL.

Sheikh s—4 bales wool, L Phicamchand; 24 cases intestines, M Ostermayer and Co; 800 bales cotton waste, H E Bode and Sons.

FOR LONDON.

Caledonia s—5 cwt ivory, Ebram Passaya and Co.

FOR DUNKIRK.

Algoa s—350 bales cotton, 17,000 cwt poppyseed, 10,044 cwt linseed, and 1,004 cwt rapeseed, Ralli Brothers.

FOR AMSTERDAM.

Langbank s—20,089 cwt linseed and 6,027 cwt rapeseed, Ralli Brothers; 24,000 cwt rapeseed, E D Sassoon and Co.

FOR ANTWERP.

Sheikh s—2,070 cwt rapeseed, Volkart Brothers; 110 bales cotton, A Blascheck and Co; 60 bales cotton, Glade and Co; 1,004 cwt rapeseed, John Fachiri; 1,110 bales cotton, Gaddum and Co; and 400 bales cotton fly, H E Bode and Sons.

Algoa s—2,003 cwt rapeseed, Ralli Brothers; and 310 bales hemp, Tyabjee and Co.

FOR HAMBURG.

Langbank s—1,106 bales cotton, 1,609 cwt myrabollams 19,285 cwt rapeseed, Ralli Brothers; 110 bales cotton, K Spinner and Co; 15,909 cwt rapeseed, E D Sassoon and Co; 100 bales cotton, Glade and Co; 100 bales cotton, Lyon and Co; 1,120 cwt myrabollams, Tyabjee and Co; 1,620 bales cotton, Volkart Brothers.

FOR GENOA.

Idar s—52 bales cotton, A Blascheck and Co.

D Balduino s—920 bales cotton, A Blascheck and Co; 2,001 cwt linseed and 100 bales cotton, John Fachiri; 6,619 cwt teel seed and 4,018 cwt linseed, Ralli Brothers; 101 bales cotton, Walter Thacker and Co.

FOR TRIESTE.

Baron Ardrossan s—3,929 cwt linseed, E D Sassoon and Co; 405 cwt myrabollams, Tyabjee and Co; 330 bales cotton, Glade and Co; 1,015 bales cotton, Gaddum and Co; 115 bales cotton, Walter Thacker and Co.

FOR VENICE.

Baron Ardrossan s—32 bales cotton, Volkart Brothers.

FOR HONGKONG.

Hydaspes s—35 bales twist, P F Talati; 25 bales twist, Silas E Sassoon; 25 bales twist, Hajee Adam Esmail and Co; 61 bales twist, and 12½ cwt gonda horns, C Ebrahim and Co; 70 cwt sharkfins, Mahomed Ladak; 155 cwt raisins, Yan Shun and Co.

FOR SHANGHAI.

Hydaspes s—75 bales twist, C Ebrahim and Co; 55 bales piece goods, E D Sassoon and Co; 33 chests opium, Abraham E J Abraham.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER ARTILLERY.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY MAJOR G. W. ROUGHTON, COMMANDING B. V. A.
Bombay, 15th May, 1897.

1. The following member having resigned is struck [illegible] strength of the Corps from 31st instant:—Gr. J. A. L[illegible]
2. Members attending the Concert at the new [illegible] Club premises this evening should wear mess d[illegible] or khaki or plain clothes.

By order,
L. PENNY, Li[illegible]
Act. Adjutant.

UNDELIVERED TELEGRAMS.

THE following is a list of messages remaining undelivered in the Central Telegraph Office, Bombay, during the week ending 14th May:—

Station from	Address in full as received.
Nandgaon, G. I. P.	Mr. Jarner, Apollo Hotel.
Mhow	Mr. Coulie, Victoria Terminus.
Cawnpore West	Great Eastern Telegraph Co.
Nagpur	C. Harris, Annunciation College, Byculla
Malvan	Quaitan D'Souza, Chira Bazar Beakery, Rotikhana.
Cawnpore West	Framjee Ardashir Dubash.
Pilibhit R. K.	Bones Merchant, care of Station Master.
Rabuki	Mani Sunkur Hathiram.
Bokhara	Sahitashim Salusmoff.
Rangoon	Lt. F. C. Mostresor, H. M. S. Spint.
Saharanpur	Mrs. H. Stafford.
Banlikui R. M.	Imleria Lobo, Club of Map Ukicares, Marine Line.
Trichinopoly	Capt. Lilley, 3rd Madras N. I.
Kalidoharghat	Mrs. A. Banks, care of Capt. A. Banks, 3 Elphinstone Circle.

TELEGRAPHIC LINE REPORT.

MAY 14.

STATE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey perfect. Via Suez, perfect.
CONTINENT OF EUROPE.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey, perfec. Via Suez, perfect.
AMERICA.—Via Brest, perfect. Via Valentia, perfect. Via Direct Cable, perfect.
AUSTRALIA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amcor, perfect.
CHINA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, perfect. Via Bhamo, perfect.
AFRICA.—Via Aden, perfect. Via Cadis Teneriffe, perfect. Via Lisbon St. Vincent, perfect.
Suez route to Turkey (Europe), section Syra Chio closed.
Telegrams for Equador are subject to censure at Guayaquil.
Private telegrams in secret language for Greece cannot be accepted.
Turkish route right.
Bhamo route to China right.

FOREIGN TELEGRAPHIC SERVICE.

Latest dates of foreign messages received at Bombay, from the United Kingdom, during the 24 hours ending at 8 p.m., of the 14th May, 1897.

(Difference in Longitude allowed for.)

Via.	Latest Dates. D.	Latest Dates. H.	Latest Dates. M.	Time occupied in transmission. Hours.	Time occupied in transmission. Minutes.
Turkey	...	...	...	...	...
Teheran	11	2	18 p.m.	...	22
Suez	11	2	50 p.m.	...	1

Time occupied in the transmission of messages to Bombay, during the 24 hours ending at 8 p.m., of the 14th May, 1897.

	Maximum Time. H.	Maximum Time. M.	Minimum Time. H.	Minimum Time. M.
From Calcutta	...	35	...	2
" Karachi	—	15	...	1
" Madras	...	22	...	2

THE annual American invasion of these Islands has just begun, and by all accounts threatens this season to be unusually formidable and determined. Maids and matrons of New York the cosmopolitan, of Boston the cultured, of Philadelphia the respectable, and of many other great cities are getting ready for the compaign. It is a peculiarity of this incursion that the feminine element predominates.

THE *Manchester Guardian's* London correspondent says that the new Railway Council, which has been called into existence by the War Office in order to advise on railway matters so far as they concern the army, will devote immediate attention to a scheme for concentrating a mass of troops on any part of the coast. A tentative scheme has been prepared, and it will be submitted to the dispassionate judgment of the railway managers, who are to be associated with the Council.

FRANCE has got her three new cardinals, remarks the *Daily Chronicle*, though it cannot be said that the trio upon whom the honour has fallen will shed much lustre upon the cardinalate. They are hardworking, meritorious ecclesiastics, little known beyond the actual sphere of their labours, Monseigneur Coullie, the Archbishop of Lyons, possesses the most distinction. He acted as coadjutor to Monseigneur Dupanloup at Orleans, and on that prelate's death took over his unfinished work. Several times he has been in collision with the Republic on religious, not political, grounds, and was actually deprived of his income when he received a summons to give the last consolations of the church to the murdered President Carnot. This incident restored him to favour and removed all opposition to his elevation. Monseigneur Sourrieu, the Archbishop of Rouen, enjoys some repute as a good preacher, and avoids controversies, being a modest and simple-minded priest. Monseigneur Laboure, of Rennes, will be the junior member of the Sacred College. He is not yet forty-six. Of humble birth, he owes his promotion to the late Cardinal Meignan, who noted his worth as an obscure country curé, and procured for him the See of Mans a dozen years ago.

DON'T LOOK OLD.—With advancing years grey ness increases. Stop this with Lockyer's Sulphur Hair Restorer, which darkens to the former colour and preserves the appearance.—Lockyer's The English Hair Restorer.

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JOHN ROBERTS & Co., LIMITED. Patent Bonzaline Billiard Balls. Specially recommended during the Hot Season, as they are not liable to crack or warp as easily as real Ivory, and are only half the price.

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N. B. DANTRA & Co.'s Pure Superior Teas—Golden Orange Pekoe Re. 1-12; Rose Orange Pekoe Re. 1-10; Rose Pekoe Re. 1-8; Flowery Orange Pekoe Re. 1-6; Flowery Pekoe Re. 1-4; Orange Pekoe Re. 1-2; Pekoe Re. 1; Pekoe Souchong as. 14; Souchong ans. 12; and Congou ans. 10 per lb. These Teas are universally acknowledged to be the best in every respect and are in increasing demand both in India and abroad.—N. B. DANTRA and Co., Tea Merchants, 33, Church Gate Street, Fort, Bombay.

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ALEXANDRA HOTEL, BOMBAY.—This is the third time my wife and self have stayed in this Hotel for a month. We are thoroughly well pleased with everything: food good, and Proprietor most obliging, and does everything that lies in his power to make one comfortable.—J. M. HARBOWER, Kasganj.

POONA HOTEL, POONA.—Is a First Class upper-storied and most Comfortable Hotel in Poona. Rooms bright, airy and commodious. Each family has separate Sitting Room. Terms—Rs. 5 per day or Rs. 125 per month. No Extras.

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DEW[illegible]E CANJEE & Co.—Teakwood and [illegible] Blackwood Plain and Inlaid Furniture of English and Indian Designs made to Order.—Chuckla, No. 6.

CHOLERA in BOMBAY!!! The Patells (Headmen) of Worli Colivada certify that NOT A SINGLE MAN DIED of CHOLERA, who used Batliwalla and Co.'s Cholera during the late epidemic........ As for Batliwalla's Ague Mixture or Pills, no more Testimonials are required when they are used with success for the Staff of the Bombay Municipality, "Bombay Gazette," "Times of India," "Advocate of India," &c., &c. They maintain their supremacy as special and specific remedies for the treatment of Malarious, Intermittent, and Bilious Fevers. Sold by Chemists and Druggists, at Re. 1 per bottle, or sent by D. BATLIWALLA, Worli, Dadur, Bombay. Discount to the Trade.

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OVERLAND SUMMARY published Weekly on the Departure of English Mail, 28 Pages of the Pall Mall Budget size, containing all the information of the previous week, carefully arranged, Army Orders, &c. Indian Subscription, Rs. 12 per year, free of Postage. English Subscription, Rs. [illegible] per year including Postage.

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SPARE TUNED REEDS for Aristons, Re. 1; for Euphoniums, Re. 1; for Phonix, Rs. 3; Giant Harmonium Aristons, Rs. 3; Giant Phonix, Rs. 3; Cabinettos Rs. 3; For Harmonium, Rs. 3.—STEFFENAUER and Co., Fort, Bombay.

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

BOMBAY MARKET REPORT.

FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 14.

As was generally anticipated, with the progress of the hot season the diminution of the pestilence continues, and at the present rate of decrease may erelong be eradicated. Things are still comparatively quiet for the time; but with the amelioration in the political situation in Europe which latest press telegrams would seem to forecast business prospects, upon the whole may be said to show considerable improvement. A fair amount of business in Cotton has been reported during the past week in a generally firm market; and more would have been done in Seeds, but for the paucity of supplies and enhanced rates; but in Wheat there is still but little passing, at nominally previous rates. The course of Exchange, after last week's heavy drop has not shown much movement from day to-day and rates close this evening 1-32d. lower for both Bank and Private Paper. The Money market has become stringent, and money scarce. In Government Paper quotations are given at ⅛ per cent. below those of last Friday for 3½ per Cents, while for Threes the price is unchanged in the same comparison. There has been rather more doing in Freights this week. Business in Imports has been moderate in a quiet but steady market.

MONEY.—Last Monday's weekly Returns of the Bank of Bombay showed that the Bank's Cash Balance had diminished since the date of the previous Return by nearly 4¼ lakhs, at some 97¾ lakhs, compared with a decrease of 10¼ lakhs, at 102¼ lakhs, then disclosed. The items principally accountable for this diminution were Private Deposits and Loans, from the former of which there had been withdrawn to the extent of 11¼ lakhs, while from the latter some 19 lakhs had been taken. Public Deposits both at the Head Office and at the Branches showed a falling off of 2¼ lakhs and 4¼ lakhs respectively. On the other hand, Government Securities increased by 1½ lakh, Bills Discounted and Purchased by over ¼ lakh, and Balances with other Banks by some ¼ lakh.

Meanwhile the market has been somewhat stringent and money scarce. The Bank of Bombay minimum rate remains at 9 per cent., the quotation in the open market being also 9 per cent.

EXCHANGE.—The market opened last mail-day quiet but steady in tone at 1s. 2 5-8d for Bank Telegraphic and Demand, and 1s. 2 3-4d. for three months' sight Credits. A moderate amount of Bank Paper was sold, but there were only a few Merchants' Bills offering. Rates were given on Monday at 1s. 2 9-16d. for Bank Telegraphic and Demand, and 1s. 2 11-16d. for three months' sight Credits. Bank Wire was bought by the Bazaar to a fair extent, and rates receded 1-32d. all round; Merchants' Bills were very scarce. On Tuesday 1s. 2 17-32 to 9-16d. was quoted for Telegraphic and Demand, for Bank remittance, and 1s. 2 21-32d. for three months' sight Credits. There was a fair amount of Merchants' Bills placed, and Bank Paper was taken to some extent, both ready and forward, and the tone of the market having become steadier rates advanced towards the close 1-32d. all round. Steady in tone on Wednesday the market opened at 1s. 2 19-32d. for Bank Telegraphic and Demand, and 1s. 2 11-16d. for three months' sight Credits. A few Merchants' Bills were reported and there was a little enquiry for Bank Paper, but the business was small. Yesterday rates were given at 1s. 2 19-32d. for Bank Telegraphic and Demand, and 1s. 2 23-32d. for three months' sight Credits. There was an unsettled feeling during the day, and Telegraphic changed hands at 1s. 2 5-8d. for Cash, and later on to a moderate extent at 1-32d. lower. Merchants' Bills though scarce were placed moderately at 1s. 2 11-16d. There was again an unsettled feeling in the market to-day with 1s. 2 19-32d. quoted at opening for Bank Telegraphic and Demand, and 1s. 2 11-16d. for three months' sight Credits. Some Bank Telegraphic was given early in the day at 1s. 2 5-8d. and the market then became quieter. Later on the Bazaar came out as sellers, and rates became steadier, and closed as follows:—

Bank Bills on Demand		...1s. 2 19-32d.	per rupee.
Do. Telegraphic		...1s. 2 19-32d.	"
Do.	3 months' sight	...1s. 2 5-8d.	"
Credits	3 do.	...1s. 2 23-32d.	"
Do.	6 do.	...1s. 2 25-32d.	"
Documents	3 mos' sight	...1s. 2⅜d.	"
Do.	6 do.	...1s. 2 13-16d.	"
Francs	3 do.	...154½	"
Do.	6 do.	...155½	"

GOVERNMENT PAPER.—At opening last mail-day the market was quiet, and quotations, which opened at 103 5-8 for Money, and 103 15-16 for Account, for 3½ per Cents, closed at the same level, with 97⅞ quoted for 3 per Cents. On Monday 103¼ was quoted for Cash, and 103⅞ for the Settlement, for 3½ per Cents, in a quiet market, at which level rates were maintained throughout the day; 97¼ was named for Threes. A little business passed on Tuesday with quotations at 103 13-16 for Money and 103 31-32 for Account, for 3½ per Cents, and 98 for Threes. The market continued quiet in tone on Wednesday at 103 5-8 and 103 7-8 for Money and Account, respectively, for 3½ per Cents, and 97¼ for Threes. Yesterday rates opened at 103 11-16 for Cash and 103 15-16 for Account, for 3½ per Cents, with Threes still at 97¼, and closed on the same level. To-day 103 3-4 has been quoted for Money, for 3½ per Cents, and 103 15-16 for Account, in a steady market; Threes are unchanged at 97¼.

Municipal 5 per cent. Loan and Port Trust Bonds are both unaltered at 125 and 108, respectively.

SHARES.—In prices there has been during the past week an upward tendency, especially noticeable in the principal line of Mill Scrip. The market, however, has been quiet on the whole, and this evening's quotations compared with last Friday's show an advance of Rs. 275, in Madras United; Rs. 125, in Sholapore; Rs. 80, in City of Bombay; Rs. 70, in Khandeish; Rs. 50, in Hope Mills; Rs. 40, in Lukmidas; Rs. 25, in Central India; Rs. 20, in Howard and Bullough; Rs. 10 each, in Connaught Empress, and Mazagon; and a decline of Rs. 55 in New Great Eastern; Rs. 50, in Jivraj Balloo; Rs. 15, in China; and Rs. 10, in David. In Presses, Bombay Cotton, are Rs. 10 lower; and Mercantile Rs. 5; while East India, are Rs. 50 higher; New Berar, Rs. 20; and Mofussil, Rs. 5. In Railways, the Ahmedabad Prantej, have advanced Rs. 15; and the Tapti Valley, Rs. 2½. Commercial and Land Mortgage Bank shares are Rs. 2 lower.

IMPORTS.

PIECE-GOODS.—During the week there has been a moderate demand for *Grey Goods*, and prices generally have ruled in buyers' favour. The majority of dealers are anxious to sell freely, and so rates have been slightly easier. Up-country buyers continue to take on a moderate scale; stocks are somewhat reduced. In *Bleached*, *Dyed Turkey-Red*, and *Printed Goods* only a small business has transpired, looking to the demand usual at this time of the year. *White Mulls Nainsooks*, and *Shirtings* have been more in request. For *Locally-made Goods* the inquiry has been small with a little business passing at current rates. The clearances of *Imported Goods* from the market during the week have been about 2,600 packages, and of *Local* some 1,100 bales.

YARNS.—Sales of *Bombay Shipping* in the China markets for the past fortnight have been about 13,000 bales. Exchange on Hongkong stands at Rs. 160, and on Shanghai at Rs. 110. China buyers here continue to buy as before, and some counts are attracting more attention than previously. The market here is quiet but steady, sales amounting to 1,000 bales, and the following being the official quotations:—

Twist.........No.	6s	Mule, As.	4½	to	4¾	per lb.
"	8s	" "	4¾	"	5	"
"	10s	" "	4⅞	"	5 11-16	"
"	12s	" "	5	"	5 1-2	"
"	16s	" "	5¼	"	6¼	"
"	20s	" "	6	"	6 1-2	"
"	24s	" "	6¾	"	7¼	"
"	30s	" "	7¼	"	7⅝	"
"	40s	" "	8¼	"	8¾	"

METALS.—Nothing of importance is reported.

COAL.—In Bengal Coals there have been sales of *Deshagur* ready, at Rs. 13¼ per ton, and for May shipment at Rs. 12¼; *Jardine's Navigation*, May shipment at Rs. 12¼. For forward May-June shipment, importers are offering to sell *Seebpore*, and *Jardine's Navigation* at Rs. 12¼ per ton, Deshagur at Rs. 13, and *Hulger's* at Rs. 12¼. The market is steady, and we quote alongside:—

Welsh Haitley ...	Nil.
West	Rs. 22 per ton.
Australian	Nil.
Powell's	Rs. 22½ "
Cardiff	" 22 "
Japan	" 15½ "
Bengal	" 12½ "
Singareni	Nil
Seebpore	Rs. 12½ "
Sanctoria	" 13 "
Deshagur	" 13¼ "

EXPORTS.

COTTON.—The inquiry for this staple was small at the close of last week, and very little was done on shippers' account, prices remaining unchanged; but dealers were firm in their pretensions, looking for higher rates. For forward contracts there were buyers, but the quotations named by sellers prevented business from resulting. At the beginning of the present week, however, the market became active, and a fair amount of business was put through in ready stuff, prices having been put up Rs. 2 to Rs. 3 per candy, all round, there having been no forward sellers of Bengals and Broach. Thereafter notwithstanding the crop report from America, the market here remained steady, and a fair amount of business transpired on the basis of previous rates, Broach and Surats of the best class being in demand. A fair demand continued to be felt. A fair inquiry has been sustained meantime and prices have advanced Rs. 2 per candy except for Broach and Dhowngger, for which they were unchanged. To-day prices continue as before with some enquiry. The Receipts of Cotton of the new crop into Bombay for the past week have been 49,500 bales, as compared with 53,200 bales during the week preceding, and 64,200 bales in the corresponding week last season; and the arrivals of new Cotton this year compared with last now show a decrease of 521,500 bales.

The following are to-day's quotations for full-pressed Cotton with the equivalents in sterling, cost, and freight to Liverpool via Canal, without Commission viz:—

Cotton—		Per candy Rs.	Per lb. C. & F.
Bengal, Fine	May.........	171	—3 3-32d.
Do. Fully Good	do	160	—2 29-32d.
Do. Good	do	153	—2 13-16d.
Bolatee, Fine	do	178	—3 3-16d.
Do. Fully Good	do	169	—3 1-8d.
Khandeish, Fully Good	do	175	—3 5-32d.
Dhollera, Fine	do	195	—3 15-32d.
Do. Fully Good	do	185	—3 5-16d.
Do. Good	do	176	—3 5-32d.
S G Dharwar Good	do	191	—3 7-16d.
Westerns	do	189	—3 3-8d.
Broach, Fine	do	203	—3 19-32d.
Do. Good	do	193	—3 7-16d.

The arrivals of New Crop Cotton into Bombay this season, as compared with last, are as follows:—

	Season, 1896-97. F. P. Bales.	Season, 1895-96. F. P. Bales.
Bengals	285,000	321,000
Berar	283,500	376,500
Khandeish	230,000	290,000
Barsi and Nuggur	58,000	89,000
Hingunghat	10,000	14,500
Persian and Sind	17,000	52,500
Broach	126,000	208,500
Dhollera	158,500	333,000
Compta and Dharwar	35,500	40,000
Westerns	2,000	2,000
	1,205,500	1,727,000

The movements of Cotton to date show the following comparison with the previous two years:—

Receipts.	1897. Bales.	1896. Bales.	1895. Bales.
For the week	19,155	61,185	83,759
From 1st Jan. to 13th May	990,915	1,323,322	958,610
Clearances to Great Britain and Continent.			
For the week	17,837	55,269	46,618
From 1st Jan. to 13th May	353,123	598,017	267,557
Clearances to Calcutta, China, Japan, &c.			
For the week	16,629	17,177	2,158
From 1st Jan. to 13th May	260,666	189,233	58,982

WHEAT and SEEDS.—Owing to the fall in Exchange and a better demand from exporters "Linseed" and "Rapeseed" have been more active markets and prices of those descriptions have advanced; but owing to the smallness of stocks the actual purchases have been upon a small scale for ready stuff, while dealers are reluctant to make forward contracts. The 'Wheat' market has been without movement to speak of, with business for shippers' account upon a small scale.

The comparative Imports of Wheat and Seeds are as follows:—

	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Wheat for the week	15,020	201,982	242,626
Do. from 1st January to 13th May	449,197	2,037,957	1,657,515
Linseed for the week	25,296	115,478	104,021
Do. from 1st January to 13th May	172,403	2,453,939	2,001,247
Rapeseed for the week......	72,080	44,081	157,051
Do. from 1st January to 13th May	468,202	442,802	1,177,697
Gingellyseed for the week	4,391	4,109	11,758
Do. from 1st January to 13th May............	352,815	894,214	697,011

The clearances of Wheat and Seeds to Great Britain and Continent are as follows:—

	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Wheat for the week	...	188,401	86,448
Do. from 1st January to 13th May	811	664,470	425,800
Linseed for the week	18,028	221,092	143,110
Do. from 1st January to 13th May	185,324	1,064,947	1,338,553
Rapeseed for the week	30,039	36,840	221,454
Do. from 1st January to 13th May	258,600	430,376	903,875
Gingellyseed for the week	...	21,275	35,959
Do. from 1st January to 13th May	303,827	932,001	910,760

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, MAY 13.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed quiet. Surats dull.

Good Dhollera 3 16-32
The Manchester Market has been quiet.
1¾ per cent. Consols..................... 113 11-16
3 per cent. Rentes 103½
3½ per cent. Sterling Loan 118¼
3½ per cent. Rupee Paper 62¾
Bar Silver 27 7-8

The Bank of England returns for the week ending yesterday show the following results:—Total Bullion, £35,200,000; Decrease £100,000; Public Deposits, £10,200,000; Increase, £5,500,000; Other Deposits, £39,400,000; Decrease, £100,000; Other Securities, £28,100,000; Increase, £400,000; Notes and Gold, £25,600,000; Increase, £100,000. The Bank's Reserve is 51 per cent. of the Liabilities.

DIVINE SERVICE.

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER, MAY 16.

SAINT THOMAS' CATHEDRAL.

7-30 a.m.—Matins.
8 a.m.—Holy Communion—Choral. Agutter in G.—Hymns Introit No. 2, 504 and 178.
6 p.m.—Evensong and Sermon—Hymns 126 part 3, 12 and 512 Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis.—Simper in F.
Daily Matins at 6-45 a.m. and Evensong at 5 p.m.
Thursday—Holy Communion at 7-15 a.m.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, MALABAR HILL.

7-30 a.m.—Matins and Holy Communion.
6 p.m.—Evensong and Sermon.

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, BANDORA.

10-15 a.m.—Matins, Holy Communion and Sermon.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST.
(Afghan Memorial Church, Colaba.)

8 a.m.—Holy Communion.
11 a.m.—Parade Service.—Hymns 510, 191 and 290.
5 p.m.—Sunday School
6 p.m.—Evensong and Sermon.—Hymns 520, 166 and 271.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCHES.
BOWEN CHURCH.
(Apollo Bunder, behind Apollo Hotel.)

10 a.m.—Sunday School.
11 a.m.—Sermon by Rev. Dr. Taylor of Ahmedabad.
6 p.m.—Sermon by Rev. Isaac F. Row.

GRANT ROAD CHURCH.

7-30 a.m.—Sunday School.
11 a.m. and 6 p.m.—Sermon.

MAZAGON CHURCH.

4-30 p.m.—Sunday School.
6 p.m.—Sermon.

FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.
(Wandby Road, Esplanade.)

6 p.m.—Service conducted by Rev. Geo. P. Taylor, D.D., of Ahmedabad.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, ESPLANADE.
(Near School of Art.)

Incumbent.—Rev. C. Gilder.
8 a.m.—Celebration of Holy Communion and Sermon.—Hymns 110, 273 and 255.
6 p.m.—Evening Prayer and Sermon.—Hymns 195, 274 and 37.

The offertories for Church expenses and poor relief.

WESLEYAN CHURCH.
(Colaba Causeway.)

11 a.m. and 6 p.m.—Rev. G. C. Walker.
7 p.m.—Communion Service.
4-30 p.m.—Sunday School.
(Byculla, Victoria Gardens)
9-30 a.m.—Rev. G. C. Walker.
6 p.m.—Mr. D. Christie.
4-30 p.m.—Sunday School.
Marathi Services.
10-30 a.m. and 4-30 p.m.—Rev. S. Rahator.

MISSION CHURCH, GIRGAUM.

11 a.m.—Morning Prayer and Sermon by Rev. A. H. Bowman.—Hymns, 2, 8, 290 and 318.
6 p.m.—Evening Prayer, Holy Communion and Sermon by Rev. A. H. Bowman—Hymns 352, 310 and 71.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH, MAZAGON.

6 a.m.—Holy Eucharist (plain).
7 a.m.—Holy Eucharist (Sung).
10 a.m.—Matins.
6 p.m.—Evensong and Sermon.
Preacher Fr. Gardiner.

CHRIST CHURCH, BYCULLA.

7-30 a.m.—Matins.
8 a.m.—Holy Communion (Choral)—Hymns 520, 553 and 191.
4-15 p.m.—Sunday School.
6 p.m.—Evensong and Sermon.—Hymns 166, 477 and 278.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, PAREL.
(Madras time.)

7-15 a.m.—Holy Communion.
8-30 a.m.—Morning Prayer.—Hymns 197 and 166.
5-30 p.m.—Sunday School.
6-30 p.m.—Evening Prayer and Sermon.—Hymns 179, 203 and 523.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

9 a.m.—B. B. and C. I. Railway Institute, Parel.
6 p.m.—St. Andrew's Church, Fort.
Evening Service—Ps. 67, 1st version, tune 207; Par. 60, tune 134; Hy. 16, 1st tune; Hy. 190, 1st tune; Hy. 119, 2nd tune.

THANKSGIVING MASS.

The Annual Thanksgiving Mass of the Catholic Railway Travellers of Bandora will be celebrated on Sunday the 16th instant at 10 a.m. in the Chapel of Our Lady of Mount.

SERVICE IN SALSETTE.

To-morrow will be celebrated Solemn High Mass in Malwane in honour of St. Anthony to whom the Parish Church there is dedicated. High Mass at 9 o'clock. The St. Anthony's Band will be in attendance.

THE BOMBAY GAZETTE OVERLAND SUMMARY.

(Compiled for despatch by the Weekly Mail to Europe.)

CONTENTS:—

1 DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES—HOMEWARD MAILS FROM BOMBAY—OUTWARD MAILS FROM EUROPE—HEADS OF INTELLIGENCE.
2-3 THE WEEK.
4 Goa News—The Simla Season—A Recrudescence of Plague?
5 BOMBAY AND PRESIDENCY—MILITARY NEWS.
6 Indian Crop Prospects—The Position of India's Currency and of its Sterling Exchange.
7 Mr. Sleigh on Exchange—The Trade of Bombay During 1896-97—Obituary of Native Gentlemen.
8 Dewan Bahadur Luxmon Jaganath—Dublin Fusiliers for South Africa.
9-10-11 The Epidemic.
12 Presidency Plague Statistics—Bombay Hunt—Ooty Flower Show.
13 LEADING ARTICLES: The Plague Mortality—The Currency Policy of Drift.
14 LEADING ARTICLES: Our Frontier Trade—The Warren Hastings Enquiry—Justice v. a Village Conspiracy.
15 LEADING ARTICLE: The Future of Upper Burma.
16 LEADING ARTICLES: The Bombay Roads:—How to Improve them—All Round Education.
17 The Double Murder at Walkeshwar—The Diamond Jubilee—Reviews.
18 The Charge of Cheating Against Dr. Murphy—The Famine—Bombay Millowners' Association.
19 Memorial to Sir James Browne—The Warren Hastings—Cossacks on the Frontier—Bombay Municipal Corporation.
20 Municipal Standing Committee—Customs Circulars—Microbe Discovered by a Parsee Doctor—Royal Indian Marine Appointments and Transfers—The Late Bishop of Cochin.
21 Presentation at Lanowli—The Yokohama Specie Bank, Limited—The Coming Monsoon—Railway Construction in Hyderabad—SPORTING NEWS.
22 BENGAL—MADRAS—N.-W. PROVINCES, OUDH AND PUNJAB—FRONTIER NEWS.
23 MISCELLANEOUS—OFFICIAL GAZETTES—Bombay Government Orders—Government of India Orders.
24 ADVERTISEMENTS. COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE—SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE—Bombay Price Current.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

DEATHS.

COURT—May 4, W. J. Court, of Coolie Koosie Tea Estate, Nowgong, through a driving accident.

FORBES—May 6, at Mathupore, E. I. Railway, George John Forbes, of Barrackpore, son of the late Alexander John Forbes, of Sultanpore Factory, Purneah, aged 63 years, 5 months and 14 days.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

⁂ ALL communications intended for publication in our columns, should be addressed to the Editor, and not to any individual member of the staff.

The Bombay Gazette

SATURDAY, MAY 15, 1897.

A GERMAN officer has had the courage to disclose in a pamphlet, which so good a critic as General Maurice caused to be translated for the instruction and guidance of British officers, secrets passed over in silence by the official histories of the Franco-German war. As nothing succeeds like success, it was the fashion for twenty years to speak of the German Army in France as the very ideal of all the soldierly virtues. But that army was composed of men of flesh and blood, and many of them when they had a chance were perverse enough to prefer a prosaic life to even the most glorious of deaths. The German officer feeling the danger of allowing a patriotic figment to influence the judgment of the men whose duty it is to order the drill of the army and prescribe the fire tactics of the future, had the nerve to tell the truth ascertained by himself and other officers who kept their eyes open during the campaign in France. He recalls his first battle in that country. The force he was with arrived in the field late in the day, and crossed it where the fight had been fiercest. He was already familiar with the sight of the dead and mangled and with the cries of the wounded, but something more strange now met his eyes. "The field was literally covered with men who had left the ranks and were doing nothing. Whole battalions could have been formed out of them. From where we stood, you could count hundreds. Some were lying down, their rifles pointed to the front, as if they were still in the firing line, and were expecting the enemy to attack them every moment. They had evidently remained behind lying down when the more courageous advanced. Others had squatted like hares in furrows. Wherever a bush or a ditch gave shelter, there were men to be seen, who, in some cases had made themselves very comfortable. All these men gazed at us without showing the least interest. The fact that we belonged to another army corps was sufficient excuse for treating us with blank indifference. I heard them saying: 'These fellows are going like the others to let themselves be shot.' Some of the men bore the shoulder-straps of a famous regiment. I turned to look at my own men. Some were pale. I myself was conscious of the depressing effect of what I saw. If the fire of the breech-loader which we were now to face for the first time, while its continuous roll sounded in our ears, had so disorganised this regiment, what would happen to me?" A reserve officer came up, and was invited to join the company and gather the stragglers about it. He answered not a word. Only two or three men came forward to join; the rest obeyed orders reluctantly; some sneaked away. As soon as they came under fire in the vineyard, all, the officer included, disappeared except the lance-corporal and private who had volunteered to rally to the company. Before coming under heavy fire, the captain saw six men standing, one behind the other, in a line with a tree, the last being a sergeant. The tree gave very little protection, and there was ample cover for the whole six close by. But they preferred the apparent shelter of the tree. Another officer in charge of a detachment in the neighbourhood of a French fortress ordered his men to advance to a position where they could return the fire of a French detachment. The sergeant asked leave to go first and fetch his great-coat. The request was refused and the officer led the way at the run. On arriving, he found he had only three soldiers with him. He returned to bring up the rest. They said that the sergeant had told them to remain where they were, and they did so. The men followed their officer; the sergeant was therefore relegated to the sutler's department. At Gravelotte several thousand men from many different corps were found in a remote vineyard which was not at all in the line of operations and consequently not in the line of fire. They had soon come to understand that the enemy's shells did not reach the vineyard, and they spent a happy day under the French vines.

All this is attributed by the German critic to the adoption of the system of swarm attack, in which every soldier, losing touch with his officer, goes into the fight and does what is right in his own eyes. This system, it is drily said, gives scope for the inherent cowardice that is in every man. What is required is a reversion, so far as is practicable, to the line formation, where each man has to keep in touch with his comrades, and learn to count on their help, and all are under the eye and within reach of the encouraging sword of their officer. The loose formation or "swarm attack" was adopted on the spur of the moment by the German military authorities after the dreadful experience of the effect of concentrated fire on the Prussian Guards at Gravelotte, when ten thousand men were put *hors de combat* in a few minutes. It was felt that the old column formation had become impossible and the line formation seemed equally out of date. The only remaining alternative was the swarm attack, each unit seeking cover to fire on the enemy while continually advancing. The German forces from the first outnumbered the French, and when the invading host was raised by reinforcements to 125,000 men, while what was left of the regular soldiers of Napoleon's army were captive in Germany, the new tactics of the victorious host were everywhere successful. All the other armies of Europe endeavoured to accommodate their ideas to the new method of combining an overwhelming attack on the enemy's lines with the independence and initiative of the individual soldier, who, animated by patriotism and military spirit, would be his own officer and choose his own path to victory. The War Reminiscences of Captain Gawne, published in a brochure bearing the singularly deceptive title of "A Summer Night's Dream," disclosed what had long been suspected, that the loose formation, adopted in haste, might have to be repented at leisure in a war when the combatants were fighting on more equal terms. Another German officer had the candour to say that if the same formation was relied on in a war fought out with the far deadlier weapons invented since 1870, the whole of the army would be found as far out of range as it was possible for each individual soldier to get. No one will suppose for a moment that this criticism of the much-lauded loose formation of infantry moving to the attack is any reproach on the German soldier; it is rather a tribute to the universality of that instinct of self-preservation which is planted in the human breast by Nature. This instinct can be brought into subjection by discipline, by a sense of duty, by habit. A distinguished Prussian veteran remarked when he saw the nervousness of some young soldiers for the first time under fire: "They are new to it; when they are a little shooted, they will do better." And they did. At the beginning of the American Civil War there was general mourning and sorrow when a couple of hundred men were slain in a skirmish. When the carnage in the Wilderness totalled up to forty-seven thousand killed and wounded in two days' fighting, there were illuminations and general rejoicing throughout the Union. Men grow indifferent to danger when they are habituated to it. That is a wise provision of nature at which even the members of the Peace Society ought not to repine. Whether in column or in line, or in loose formation, a great deal of hard fighting will have to be done, compared with which the Napoleonic wars and the battles around Metz will sink into insignificance. Lest this should be thought a rash prediction, let us hear what Von Moltke wrote before the magazine rifles and the quick-firing guns of the present day were invented: "If the war which has hung over our heads like the sword of Damocles for more than ten years past, ever breaks out, its duration and end cannot be foreseen. The greatest Powers in Europe, armed as they have never been armed before, will then stand face to face. Not one of them can be shattered in one or two campaigns so completely as to confess itself beaten, and conclude a peace on hard terms, or as not to recover after a year or so, perhaps to renew the conflict. It may be a seven years' war, it may be a thirty years' war."

Since the great war, the long prophesied Amageddon, may last seven long years or even thirty, it is natural that we should endeavour to form some general idea of the manner in which it will be fought out. "The Summer Night's Dream," to which we have referred, forecasts the direction taken by the organisers of victory when reviewing their drill books in those later years. Instead of the loose formation, there will probably be an endeavour to bring the masses on either side against each other in single lines composed of forty or fifty men each, firing volleys as directed by their officers and closing up instead of separating and seeking shelter when the enemy's fire rakes them. French experts have arrived independently at the same general principle; they hold that batallions should as in Napoleon's time be the basis of the attack; the first line in advance should not lie down in cover to let the second pass over it, but should continuously advance, and, reinforced by the second line and by the batallions, dislodge the enemy with the bayonet. To understand what this means we must note that the German magazine rifle, which has certain advantages over the French Lebel, has a range of 3,800 metres—over 4,000 yards. Each magazine holds five bullets, which propelled by smokeless powder can go through a wall one brick and a-half thick, or pass through a fine tree thirty-two inches in diameter. In the German Army Manœuvres the construction of earthworks and of strong trenches for skirmishers are a necessary part of the day's work. Cover can only be obtained against the magazine rifle by a breast-work two feet and a-quarter thick; which of course will be of no use whatever against the quick-firing artillery, the newest type of which fires six hundred shots in a minute. It is held that up to five hundred yards everything between two and a-half and six foot high should be hit by the rifle at point blank range. The rifle is sighted to 2,000 metres. What will be the chances of life for the individual soldier who advances—without seeking shelter—against an enemy ensconced in his strong shelter trenches? Will these considerations induce an insurance company to insure his life against the accidents of war for a high premium? No general out of Bedlam would send infantry against an entrenched enemy without first pounding the entrenchments with a heavy artillery fire which would not only weaken the position, but shake the nerves of the men occupying it. The German officer whose "dream" we have quoted, lays it down as an axiom that after a certain number of hours of a fight under modern conditions, infantry will have so used up their nervous energy, that "it is a matter of indifference whether their remnants carry a repeating rifle, a flint musket, or a pitchfork, for the men's nerves are overstrained, and their weapons count for nothing." A "wave of demoralisation" might, not inconceivably, come over a much tried enemy holding a position heavily shelled, on seeing a force advancing against him at the charge.

As already stated the shipments of Indian produce to foreign countries during the year ending on March 31st last were 966⅓ lakhs below those of the previous twelve months, bringing the total export trade just under the hundred crores limit above which it had ranged for the previous five years. The business we did was therefore smaller than in any year since 1890-91. Fully forty per cent. of the decrease occurred at Bombay, and about one-fourth at Karachi. The latter port had to sustain not only the dislocation of trade caused by quarantine regulations, but also a reduction of more than seven-eighths of the business in her staple commodity—wheat. The value of her shipments thereof was 129 lakhs as compared with 238½ lakhs in the previous year, and 205 lakhs in 1894-95. In the month of March not a single bag of grain was sent from the Sind port. The Bombay exports of wheat were less by sixty per cent. than in the preceding twelve months, and yet although her total is usually far below that of Karachi, she took first place in the list of exporting ports. The wheat shipments from India amounted in all to 95,527 tons, as compared with considerably more than half-a-million tons in 1895-96. The reduction in the foreign sales of grain and pulse of other kinds (exclusive of rice) was not so tremendous as this, but it is nearly fifty per cent. The reduction in the value of grain is not so large relatively as that in the quantities, owing to prices having ruled much higher. Better business was done in rice exports than might have been expected, the total quantity sent away being 1,413,887 tons, as compared with 1,757,612 tons in the previous year. The re-exports of Burmese rice from Bombay were not much below the previous standard. Altogether about one-half of the total loss of trade comes under the denomination of grain and pulse, this being entirely due to the effects of the Famine. The progression in the tea trade was fully maintained, its total value being 812 lakhs, a rise of 46 lakhs. The increase of about 12 per cent. in the value of living animals exported may mean that owing to the bad times some owners of race-horses disposed of a part of their stud to purchasers abroad. The trade in metals and manufactures of metals also shows a much needed tendency towards development; it is far smaller than it should be in view of the unique character of Indian art in metal work. There was a reduction in value of the opium sent from India owing to the cheaper prices prevailing, but the quantity sent away was larger, being 86,386 cwt. as compared with 83,944 cwt. previously. The indigo trade suffered severely from the lower prices and diminished Indian supply, the exports being reduced in value by one-fifth. The total value of the oils exported was 61 lakhs, being 13 lakhs less than in the previous year.

Coming to the leading staple of the Bombay trade, raw cotton, we find that the total quantity exported was very little less than in the previous year (260,801 tons as against 262,421 tons), but the value was reduced from 1,409 lakhs to 1,297 lakhs. This difference is probably partly accounted for by the shipments of the best varieties not having formed so high a percentage of the total as was the case in the previous twelve months. Japan heads the list with 74,930 tons as compared with 42,792 tons in the preceding year; Germany, which until this year took first place, is a bad second with 43,558 tons, the countries next in order being Italy and Belgium. The slow but certain development of the mill industry in China would seem to be indicated by the fact that she trebled her indents from this country. But this did not prevent her from taking more cotton yarn than ever before. Out of a total shipment of 196 millions of pounds, China absorbed no less than 186 millions, leaving all other customers immeasurably behind. The Straits Settlements stood second with 4,634,000lbs. and Aden third with 1,551,000lbs. The Chinese demand for piece-goods on the other hand showed a falling off to the extent of one-third. Naturally the small output of our mills in the closing months of the year led to a great reduction in a trade, seven-eighths of which falls to the share of Bombay. Its total value was 120½ lakhs as compared with nearly one and a-half crores. The Eastern Coast of Africa was the principal consumer, taking about three-tenths of the total exports. For several years past the shipments in that direction have been steadily maintained, but have not progressed. The takings of Japan—our principal customer a few years ago—have now become so small that they are not separately classified in the returns. The exports of jute were larger in value by 55½ lakhs than in the previous year, and were only just a little behind the high water mark of 1891-95. The United Kingdom takes about three-fifths of the total. There was a very heavy drop, owing to the bad season in the shipments of oilseeds, which were valued at 789½ lakhs as compared with 960½ lakhs in the previous record. Til and rape seeds are the items in which the deficiency principally occurs. The gradual rise of a trade in tea-seed, during the last two years is worthy of note. The diminution in business in seeds fell entirely on Bombay. The complaint so often heard of late from our merchants, that Calcutta obtains preferential rates from the railway companies, would seem to be borne out by the fact that she exported even a larger quantity than in the previous year, when the total export was so much better. The trade in hides and skins did not suffer any great diminution by reason of the quarantine regulations, a circumstance which may be attributed to the fact that most of the business is conducted from Calcutta, and not from Bombay.

THE English cricket season commenced at Easter and promises to be an interesting one. The counties and all the big clubs have their dates filled up, and there will be a hard fight for premier position at the end. The event of the cricketing year will be the visit to England of an American team. This—the Philadelphian—will be in England before the Jubilee holidays, and will see the old country at its jolliest. It is now eight years since an American eleven appeared on English ground two projected trips having fallen through after fixtures had been booked and preliminary arrangements made. These two failures made the English authorities a little doubtful about the present enterprise, but all anxiety was set at rest prior to the meeting of county secretaries at Lord's so long ago as December last. The Philadelphians as on their previous visit, are happily independent of financial considerations. They will be in England for about two months, playing their first match on the 7th of June, and their last on the 29th July. Thus they will be in England at the best of all times and no pains will be spared to make their visit enjoyable. On their previous visits American cricketers only met amateurs, and never were opposed to any of the representative English bowlers. They have apparently made great progress since then, for they have now arranged matches with such formidable opponents as Surrey, Yorkshire, Notts, Lancashire, Middlesex, Sussex, Gloucestershire, Somerset, Warwickshire, Kent, Hampshire, the Marylebone Club, the two Universities, and the Past and Present of Oxford. None of the tipsters quite know how the Philadelphians play; but the idea is that they have been too ambitious in their challenges. Still they are expected to be the best team yet come from America. Cricket at Lord's is expected to be rather quiet during the year. It seems that much delay arose in arranging dates for the Eton and Harrow match, but it has now been definitely fixed for the 9th and 10th of July. The M. C. C. have arranged with Middlesex that the Middlesex and Somerset match on Whit Monday shall be played for the benefit of William Hearn, who has been attached to the M.C.C. ground staff for many years.

LIEUTENANT HARVEST, 9th Madras Infantry, whose name appears in to-day's *Gazette of India*, is transferred to Bombay for employment as Officiating Cantonment Magistrate. He probably goes to Deesa.

THE Committee of the Native Piece-Goods Merchants' Association have resolved to close the Piece-Goods Markets, at 2 p.m., to-day, to enable the merchants to attend the meeting convened at the Town Hall for presenting an address to Her Majesty the Queen-Empress on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee.

WE learn that Mr. Ratiram Durgaram Dave (nephew of the late Honourable Mr. Javerilal Umiashankar Yajnik) has, at the request of friends, consented to stand as a candidate for the Bombay University Seat on the Legislative Council of H. E. the Governor of Bombay, left vacant by his uncle's universally regretted demise.

LAST week, says the *Pioneer*, we announced that the Amir's irregulars had been withdrawn from Mitti, on the borders of Nawagai in Bajour. Mr. Udny, Commissioner of Peshawar, and Major Deane, Political Officer on the Malakand, have since received news from separate sources confirming the withdrawal, and there is every reason to suppose that we have heard the last for some time to come of Afghan intrigue in the Western Mohmand country. During the course of the negotiations regarding the demarcation of the Indo-Afghan border from Landi Kotal to the Asmar district, the Amir acknowledged the correctness of the frontier as laid down in the Durand Treaty, under which Mittai was distinctly within the British sphere of influence; and his Highness has now loyally carried out his engagements by withdrawing his officials and their escorts from the valley which General Ghulam Hyder occupied last year. This is extremely satisfactory, for the presence of the *Khasadars* had had a very disturbing effect not only on the Western Mohmands, but on the Bajouris generally. The Khan of Dir, who is responsible for maintaining and guarding the Chitral road from the Swat River to the Lowarai Pass, was also alarmed at the possibility of Afghan emissaries making mischief in the Panjkora Valley; but now he will be more at ease. The troops marching to and from Chitral this month are not likely to be molested in any way, as the Bajouris must see that the Amir has no intention of meddling in tribal affairs and that he is again on most friendly terms with the Indian authorities. The annual Reliefs will, therefore, have a good effect in showing the various clans that the garrisoning of Chitral is a permanent step and that the line of communication is to be kept open just as much as any road within the Peshawar frontier.

THERE has been much speculation of late as to whether an official medal, as a memento of the Diamond Jubilee, will be issued. The popular opinion is that such an auspicious event should not be allowed to pass without being commemorated by the issue of such a medal. Popular expectations will probably be fulfilled, for it is now stated that the authorities of the Mint have decided that a medal shall be struck, and that the obverse be the same design of the Queen as used on the present coinage.

SEEING that the North Punjab is one of the very few tracts where the spring crops have promised really well it is melancholy to hear of such an occurrence as the following:—"Nowshera," writes a correspondent on the 5th instant, "has this afternoon been visited by a hail-storm of extraordinary violence. We have often heard of the hailstone which in size has rivalled a pigeon's egg, but the stones which smote us to-day would have done credit to a large sized duck. High wind accompanied the hail, and consequently the damage done by the storm is enormous. Every thing in the way of crops is literally annihilated branches of trees life str numbers of birds have ti n has never been and that it should ha when the harvest calamity." One ca have been as local a

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TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

THE TURKO-GRECIAN WAR.

THE ARMISTICE HANGS FIRE.

LONDON, MAY 13.

The Ambassadors of the Great Powers at Constantinople have again urged the Porte to suspend hostilities.

DOMOKOS TO BE CAPTURED FIRST.

The opinion prevails in Turkish circles that nothing will be done pending the capture of Domokos.

CAPTURE OF A TRANSPORT BY THE GREEKS.

MAY 14.

The steamer captured by the Greek fleet was a chartered Egyptian transport bound for Thasus, which is an Egyptian dependency.

DOMOKOS IN DANGER OF BEING OUTFLANKED.

Nothwithstanding the Duke of Sparta's address to the Army, it is believed that Domokos will be easily outflanked by the Turks.

REPORTED MOVEMENT FOR SURROUNDING THE GREEK ARMY.

It is reported that a Turkish movement for the purpose of surrounding, the Greek Army is actually proceeding, and hence the delay in acceding to an armistice.

RUSSIA UNEASY AT TURKISH SUCCESS.

It is understood that the Powers, and especially Russia, do not desire that Turkey should in any way be aggrandized by the war since her martial vitality has been a most unpleasant surprise.

THE QUESTION OF INDEMNITY.

M. Delyannis, who was interviewed yesterday, declared that Greece would reject any demand on the part of Turkey for indemnity.

THE GREEKS RE-ENTER EPIRUS.

The Greek troops have reentered Epirus, and re-occupied Philipiada.

LANDING OF GREEKS NEAR NICOPOLIS.

A Greek force has been landed near Nicopolis, under cover of the fire from the squadron which is bombarding Prevesa.

THE EMPEROR WILLIAM'S ADVANCES TO FRANCE.

The French press are discussing the Emperor William's recent ostentatious advances to France, which they regard with mistrust, the majority preferring a rapprochement with Great Britain.,

THE SALT DUTY IN INDIA.

Lord George Hamilton, replying to Sir W. Wedderburn in the Commons, said he was not aware of any general feeling in India in favour of reducing the Salt Duty for a year, which would result in unbonding a much larger quantity of salt than was required. He was therefore unable to issue any order in the matter.

EXCHANGE COMPENSATION.

Sir W. Wedderburn then asked whether it was legal for the Viceroy, Governors, and Members of the Councils to draw Exchange compensation allowance, as the Statute fixes the salaries of some of these officials in rupees.

Lord George Hamilton, in reply, said opinions differ about it, but he was obtaining further advice.

THE MAILS.

ADEN, MAY 14.

The P. and O. Company's s. s. Ganges, with the homeward mails of the 8th instant, arrived here, at 5-30 a.m., to-day.

GAZETTE OF INDIA NOTIFICATIONS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

SIMLA, MAY 14.

Home Department.—The services of Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel Wilkins are placed at the disposal of the Bombay Government for plague duty.

Lieutenant Turner, R.E., is appointed Assistant Superintendent, Survey of India, Public Works Department.

Captain Cowie, R.E., officiates as Manager of the Eastern Bengal Railway, vice Mr. Finney, on three months' leave.

Major-General Marshal obtains a further term of office as Chief Engineer and Secretary of the Punjab Government.

The appointment of Mr. Upcott to officiate for Colonel Gracey is now formally gazetted.

Finance Department.—Mr. Lyon, Assistant Commissioner of Salt, Sambhar Lake, is granted special leave of six months. Mr. Helford officiates.

Foreign Department.—Mr. E. Colvin, I.C.S., has been appointed Political Agent in the Eastern States of Rajputana, vice Lieutenant-Colonel Newill. The appointment of Major Scallon to officiate during Colonel Meliss' absence in England as Inspector-General of the Imperial Service Troops, is now gazetted. Captain Crawford is doing Lieutenant Scott's duties as Assistant Inspecting Officer in the Punjab of the Imperial Service Infantry in addition to those of his own. The appointment of M. Bonenbalust, as Acting Vice-Consul for Austria at Aden, vice M. Schmuck, is recognised by the Viceroy. Munshis Damodarlal and Harnamdas, Ajmere, both receive a step in promotion.

Military Department—Surgeon-Colonel Major is appointed to the Administration of the Army Medical Staff, vice Surgeon Major-General Muir, transferred to Egypt. Captain Muter, Royal Artillery, receives five years' extension of service in the Ordnance Department. Veterinary-Lieutenant-Colonel Thomson is appointed Inspecting Officer of the Punjab Command, vice Veterinary-Lieutenant-Colonel Poyser, retired. Lieutenant Newnham, 3rd Lancers, and 2nd-Lieutenants St. John, 29th B. I.; Norman, 18th Bengal Lancers; Barston, 37th B. I.; Orr, 11th Bengal Lancers; Marsh, 21st Madras Infantry; Woodhouse, 26th Bombay Infantry; Bingham, 2nd B.I.; Bridges, 17th B. I; Wheatley, 20th B. I.; Ridgeway, 29th B. I.; Moreon, 24th B. I.; Newcome, 30th Bombay Infantry; and Beecher, 10th B. I., are all admitted to the Staff Corps. Mr. W. Sutherland is appointed 2nd-Lieutenant in the Indian Army Reserve. Captain Grantham receives the temporary rank of Major.

Marine Department.—Lieutenants Rowsal and Warden are granted leave extensions on medical certificate of six and four months, respectively.

Surgeon-Lieutenants Price and Baines, appointed for service in Bombay Command, have reported [illegible]

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THE KASHMIR DISASTER.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.)

SIMLA, MAY 14.

The Resident in Kashmir is sending out a special officer to inquire upon the spot regarding the reported fatal accident to the British officers overwhelmed by the avalanche, near Leh.

It now turns out that Captain Lecky is elsewhere and safe. It is said that the story of his being a victim arose from finding some of his possessions; but as to one or other of the two Subalterns, Livingstone Learmouth and Vincent, both from Lucknow, who started, it is believed, in company to shoot in the neighbourhood of the accident, little doubt is now felt that one of them is the officer killed. The other was probably beyond the Passes, so that he knows nothing of the matter and may not be heard from for some time.

A NEW FAMINE CODE.

The Government of India have deputed Mr. T. Higham, of the P. W. D., to collate the experience obtained during the present famine in different parts of India with a view to the preparation of a fresh Famine Code hereafter for the constitution of an uniform record for future guidance. He is given wide discretion as to the scope of inquiry, which will include the investigation of methods adopted in the different localities for conducting relief-works and their effect upon the general economic conditions of the country.

Mr. Higham arrives from leave to-morrow, and commences investigations in the Bombay Presidency immediately.

THE FAMINE.

NUMBERS UNDER RELIEF INCREASING.

The numbers under relief throughout India have now risen to 36,07,892; the principal increase being in Madras, Bengal, the North-West Provinces, Central Provinces, and Central India.

Prices also have again risen in several districts in Bengal; are slightly easier in parts of the Central Provinces, and fluctuating elsewhere.

THE SIMLA POLO TOURNAMENT.

FIRST ROUND.

In the first round of the Simla Polo Tournament to-day, the Patiala team beat the Black Watch; and the Commander-in-Chief's Staff beat the 16th Lancers, both the games being won easily.

QUARANTINE AT FOREIGN PORTS.

Russia imposes ten days' quarantine in the Black Sea ports on vessels from India. In the case of tea the interior of the chests only will be subjected to disinfection.

France now admits raw leather and fresh skins, also wool, after disinfection.

PLAGUE CHARTS.

A series of charts have been issued by the Home Department showing the course of plague in all the Principal Indian cities where it has so far appeared.

TRAMWAY EXTENSION IN NASIK.

The Government have sanctioned the agreement for taking up land for extension of the Tramway into Nasik city.

BOMBAY COMMAND ORDERS.

POONA, MAY 14.

Major Mann, Royal Engineers, is placed in charge of office of the Poona Division, Military Works, vice Colonel Hart, transferred to Mianmir.

Under instructions from the Army Head-Quarters, Lieutenant Bovet, Military Works Department, is transferred to the Bombay Sappers and Miners.

The Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces Bombay, is pleased to make the following appointments:—South Lancashire Regiment (2nd) Battalion—Lieutenant Herbert, to be Acting Paymaster.

Major Wilcock, Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, Nagpur District, is appointed to officiate as Assistant Adjutant-General, District Staff, Bombay Command, and is posted to Deesa District.

On the recommendation of the Medical Board, Captain Foster, Royal Artillery, Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, Bombay Command, is permitted to proceed to England. (Captain Foster vacates his appointment in India under Article 703, Army Regulations, India; and having been posted to the Home Establishment, he will, on arrival in England, report himself in writing to the War Office.)

Lieutenant-Colonel Pengree, on promotion from the 27th Field Battery, Royal Artillery, is struck off that Battery.

The retirement, on retired pay, of Major Elwes, No 23 Company Southern Division, Royal Artillery, is announced from the 14th April 1897.

Major Findlay, No. 13 Company Eastern Division, is transferred to the 34th Field Battery Royal Artillery.

Lieutenant Hammond, No. 7 Company Southern Division, is transferred to No. 18 Company Southern Division Royal Artillery.

Lieutenant-Colonel Hotham, Commanding Kirkee, is granted leave from 25th June to the 4th of December.

Captain Duban, Instructor of Gunnery, Bombay, from 17th May to the 18th of October.

Royal Artillery—Lieutenant Sergeant, No. 26 Company Eastern Division, for five months.

Surgeon-Colonel Atkinson, is granted leave for 8 months; and Assistant Surgeon Chitts, for six months.

PASSENGERS BY THE HOMEWARD MAIL.

THE P. and O. Co.'s s. s. Caledonia, Captain W. B. Andrew, will sail, to-day, for London and Brindisi, with English mails and the following passengers:—

FOR LONDON.

Advaud, Mrs
Alcock, Mr G
Allan, Lieut W M
Arbuthnot, Mr
Arbuthnot, Mr L G
Arnott, Brig-Surg-Lieut-Col
Ashpited, Mr S W
Atkinson, Rev A W. and 3 boys
Atkinson, Mrs
Bahauddin, Khan Bisaldar Major, A D C
Baiset, two Misses
Ball, Miss
Banks, Capt
Beatty, Miss
Beechley, Mr H
Bennett, Mr and Mrs, and four children
Berrill, Mr F
Black Hawkins, Lieut S O
Bolton, Mr and Mrs
Bomonjee, Mr Dady
Boon, Mr J
Bowman, Mr F
Boyd, Mr L
Boylette, Mr P G
Brown, Mr S Gore
Brownrigg, Col H S
Bullman, Miss
Callaghan, Mrs and 2 daughters
Cama, Mr Nowrojee P
Cama, Mrs
Cama, Mr Byramjee N
Cama, Mr Cowasjee N
Cama, Master T N
Cama, Mr Rustom K S
Campbell, Capt C F
Campbell, Mrs F, and 2 children
Challis, Miss
Chapman, Rev P H
Churchill, Lieut W S
Cohen, Mr
Collins, Mr S Hoare
Considine, Mr W J
Constance, Capt Hugh
Craig, Mrs J
Creagh, Mrs and Miss, and child
Critchley, Mrs
Cursetjee, Mr and Mrs C M, and two children
Curteis, Mrs
Davidson Lieut
Davis, Miss
Dawson, Mr R F
Devsinghji, H H Prince
Dennis, Mr R W
Dick-Cunnyngham, Lieut W
Dinshaw D Mistry, Mr
Doridge, Mr
Dowse, Mr R
Dower, Mr Jr
Dowse, Miss
Dowse, Mrs
Duhan, Capt F T T
Duncombe, Lieut
Dunscon, Mr H S
Edge, Surg and Mrs, and child
Fellowes, Col, Miss, and Master
Fernandez, Mr
Foy, Dr and Mrs, and 2 infants
Frampton, Mrs O F
Francis, Lieut A C
Godatly, Mrs
Gladden, Mr J E
Grant, Lieut Col S
Grant, Major Genl C R
Grant, two Misses
Guyther, Mr
Guzdar, Mr K
Guzdar, Mr N
Hamilton, Col Ian
Hamson, Mr
Harris, Major and Mrs C W
Harris, Mr R L
Harris, Miss
Hardenbrook, Mr F S
Hartwell, Mr Sydney
Harvey, Mr
Henderson, Mr J R
Hewitt, Mr and Mrs John
Hewson, Mr and Mrs and family
Hodson, Capt G B
Horbury, Mr and Mrs
Hutton, Rev D
H H Thakore Sahib of Morvi
Irvine, Lieut A
Irwin, Lieut Col W S
Jackson, Mr G J
Jackson, Mrs and Miss and child
Jadiga, Mr L K
Jamsetjee, Mr J C
Jardine, Mrs
Jedery, Mr E
Jejeebhoy, Mr R R
Johnson, Mr
Johnson, Mr C W
Johnston, Mr R
Kelly, Capt F H
Kerr, Mr
Ker, Mr T
Khery, Dr
Khursedjee SorabjeeFramjee, Mr
Kidd, Mr
Kirkpatrick, Mr
Kirwan, Rev R M
Lang, Mrs, infant, and 2 children
Lee, Mr E A
Lightfoot, Mr
Lindsay, Miss
Little, Mr T D
Lowainskey, Mr and Mrs
Luard, Mrs E S
Luttreu, Mr T
Lund, Mrs G
Lyle, Surg-Major A A
Lynn, Mrs
Lyon, Mr W T
Mackenzie, Mr T D
Macpherson, Mr and Mrs J
Manavatty Dr B H
Martin, Surg Major H
McGarty, Miss
McLean, Mr
McMerny, Mrs
Mehta, Hon Mr P M
Melville, Capt and Mrs P J
Menzies, Mr
Menzies, Mr R T
Meyer, Mr
Moir, Mr, Mrs and child
Montague, Mr J
Moore, Maj Gel, C A
Moore, Mr T H
Moore, Mrs, and child
Morton, Mrs
Moscrip, Mr
Muirhead, Mr C
Munke, Mr A B
Nells, Surg-Col J A
Newton, Mrs and Miss, 2 children and infant
Oak, Mr W
Fakirjee, Ockerjee Mr
Oldham, Commander C F
Orpen, Col R T
Orr, Mr and Mrs J W
Parvez, Mr A M
Paterson, Mrs
Patterson, Mr and Mrs
Pelle, Miss
Pike, Mr H
Ramsay, Mr James
Ratligan, Mr
Rawlinson, Capt C
Rawson, Master
Robertson, Mr R
Rowpell, F F F
Searle, Mrs P C, and infant
Sewell, Mr and Mrs J E
Shackell, Capt L J
Shaw, Mr W G
Sheridan, Mr W H P
Short, Mr E
Squire, Mr H
Stainforth, Mr G F
Stanus, Capt
Street, Mrs A, and 2 infants
Stuber, Mr J E
Swann, Mr H
Tennant, Mr E
Thompson, Mr and Mrs G
Thomson, Lieut J F R
Thornett, Mr A J
Tighe, Miss
Tighe, Mr and Mrs W, child, and infant
Tomkins, Mr and Mrs H G
Townsend, Capt
Trafford, Mr C
Trevithick, Mr R
Trevor, Lieut A P
Tulloch, Capt J A
Turner, Lieut A J
Turner, Mr A W G
Underwood, Mr W G
Walker, Lieut G
Warden, Mr H B
Watson, Capt J C A
Way, Mr R A
Webb, Mr J V
West, Mrs, child and infant
Williamson, Mr R
Wilson, Rev R
Wilson, Mr T
Woodwright, Mrs
Wolff, Mr W H
Wright, Mr and Mrs W B, and infant
Wright, Mr P L
Young, Mr W E
Risaldar Major Minegal Singh
Risaldar Kadan Khan
Risaldar Major Abdul Aziz Khan
Risaldar Makbul Khan
Rasaldar Netram
Subhadar Mahomed Beg
Risaldar Major Hussim Khan
Risaldar Major Mehrabe Ali Khan
Bahauddin Khan
Risaldar Jehangir Khan
Risaldar Major Mahomed Umar Khan
Risaldar Mir Haider Shah Khan
Risaldar Major Faiz Khan
Risaldar Nadir Khan
Risaldar Major Khan Bahadur
Risaldar Gardatt Singh
Risaldar Major Sher Singh
Risaldar Hakam Singh
Risaldar Izzat Khan
Raisaldar MajorKesmSingh
Leech, Mr
Jamadar Abdul Karim
Risaldar Major Ali Mahomed Khan
Nawab Mir Dinanath Hasam Khan Bahadur

FOR BRINDISI.—Lyle, Sur.-Major A A

TABLE TALK.

(BY WALTER BESANT.)

LONDON, APRIL 24.

I DO not go so far as some. I would not willingly see a bonfire made of all existing guide books. Indeed, few of them deserve so hard a fate. At the same time, I wish to record a deliberate opinion, formed after many years' experience of guide books. This opinion is that the ordinary Handbook, or Guide, is the dullest, coldest, most unattractive work ever presented to the public. It professes to furnish a history and a description of a town. Its history is contained in half-a-dozen lines, and is confined to the detail of a battle or two. As to the importance of the place, what it meant formerly, what influence its position, trade, and prominence have had upon the country, the book is silent. Again, it professes, to describe the town; well, it does nothing of the kind; it gives no map, as a rule; no ground plan of the cathedral or principal buildings; and it passes over many of the most considerable monuments. It would be invidious to name any particular town, but out of several that I have annotated in the Handbooks I select one, which shall be nameless, for the omissions and contradictions. I observe, first of all, that one of my guides says this town is 720 feet high; another says that by zigzag stairs of 263 steps it may be reached by the pedestrians. Poor wretch; each step must be 2 feet 9 inches in height! Almost as bad as going up the great Pyramid. Fancy the face, and the moppings of that face, when a fat French *commis voyageur* has successfully accomplished the ascent! Now for the omissions. On the north side of the Cathedral there stands a very ancient building, now divided into chambers. The windows are modernised, yet here and there are left "bits" to show its antiquity and that it was formerly an Ecclesiastical building; while there are grey buttresses, on which wallflowers flourish and blossom; which are green and yellow with moss and stonecrop; forming the most picturesque building possible. My book says nothing about this old place. Also, beneath this building, which was formerly a church, there are crypts and vaults very curious and remarkable. Not a word of all this in the Handbook. Again, there are three (at least) most beautiful old gates, one of which closely resembles the gate at Rye. Not one of these gates is mentioned. There are arches and old gateways scattered about the town, all of them worth looking at. Not a word about them. There are "bits" such as ancient "tourelles;" old "facades;" the apse of an ancient church turned into a factory. Not a single word about them.

There is another and a much more serious omission. A town does not consist of certain churches and certain ruins only. There are also, if you come to think of it, the people. Now, to speak of a town and to ignore the people is, if you please, a lopsided kind of description. For my own part, when I have seen the ancient monuments I address myself to the living people—also an ancient monument. They are to be seen and studied in the market, in the streets, in the *cafés*, in the shops, in the theatre. By watching the people, one presently carries away—it may be exaggerated—it may be wrong—an estimate or idea of the people, by which the town remains ever after photographed in the brain. This kind of estimate—any indication to this kind of estimate—is wholly wanting in any guide book that I have ever seen.

Again, the present system of compiling a guide book must be radically changed. The guide book of the future will not be written by a man engaged, so to speak, by the job, who visits a place once, stays there for a single night, runs round the principal monuments, makes notes, buys a local history, and goes away. It will be written by someone who has stayed in every place described long enough to have caught its spirit, to have traversed all its streets, examined all its monuments, conversed with its people, and has got to know the place from end to end. It will take many men to make such a Guide-book. Of course, the Guide-book of the future will be much bigger than that of the present; but space will be saved first, by leaving out catalogues, as of picture galleries, which can be obtained on the spot, and secondly, by omitting all places except those worth a visit. Plans of the towns and the monuments will be given; small outline drawings will illustrate the text; and the historical part will be adequate. You see that in order to obtain all these *desiderata* it will be necessary to tear up and to destroy by far the greater part of the existing Guides.

These observations have been forced upon me by my experience of the last few days. They are general. I sat down, however, with the view of talking about one town, to which I invite everybody who wants to see a treasury of ancient monuments and things beautiful. I have seen Avinon, and Nimes, and Arles and Carcassonne, and Angers and Poitiers, and Angouleme. I have also seen Hildesheim, and Shrewsbury, and Verona, and many other ancient cities; but I do not think that any of these places can compare for riches of the past with the ancient city of Laon. You get to it by the Bale express, which leaves Charing Cross at 11 a.m., and arrives at Laon at 7 p.m.—just a nine hours' journey. But by some extraordinary stupidity, they will not register your luggage or give you a through ticket, at Charing Cross. Why they will not I cannot explain or understand. One intelligent functionary to whom I addressed myself for assistance advised me to register to Bale and then return; now Bale is only 300 miles beyond Laon! The consequence of this arrangement is that one has to wait in the douane at Calais in order to fight for the luggage; that it is impossible to get lunch; and that you keep the train waiting, and get bundled in anyhow. Perhaps a way less trying to the nerves would be to go to Paris; stay the night there, and then go on to Laon the next day—a three hours' journey.

The country between Lille and Laon is curiously flat and low; great breadths of it, just now, are under water; the coppices stand with their roots in water; the trees are longing to burst into leaf; here and there a pear-tree has already rashly opened its blossoms; a cold east wind keeps everything back; but some spring flowers are out; the marsh mallow, the cowslip, the wood anemone are in full flower in the fields. We saw no primroses. Suddenly, out of the flat plain, there rises a huge rock, the beginning of a chain of low rocky hills. This mass, advanced like a Barbican into the open plain is big enough on the top to contain a good-sized town—the town of Laon. In the twilight the carriage climbs slowly up zigzag roads, branching off to right and left in mysterious, leafy lanes, with hanging woods, all the way until the top is reached, and the carriage rumbles over the stony pavement to the Hotel. These notes are not a guide book; therefore I leave to that encyclopædia the Cathedral and the other monuments which it condescends to notice. Beneath the dignity of history is the reminder in every street of stratum under stratum, age under age, of antiquity. This gateway, how old is it? This court leading to a wall of strange antiquity; this narrow and winding street; these ramparts; these gates; this tourelle; this mass of masonry, older than the gate near which it stands; all speak of an antiquity as old as anything in Western Europe. If we shut our eyes to the modern houses we can see the ancient town with its churches and monasteries, its nobles' houses, its thatched cottages lining the narrow lanes; the craftsmen are at work with open doors and windows, the bells ring, the men-at-arms, and the knights ride up and down. They do not even turn their heads when a certain priest and scholar passes on his way. Yet a remarkable priest—a priest who will belong to all history. It is something to have seen him—even for a rough soldier who understands nothing about him. For this priest is Abelard.

Abelard had just gone through the market place. Would you like to know what the market-place was like in his time? Well, then, you may look at it to-day. The Place is partly opposite the west front of the cathedral, and partly on the south side. There are rows of little stalls kept by women; there are women with baskets full of garden produce; apples, radishes, lettuces, carrots, mushrooms, and flowers; there is a fish stall with trout, pike, and river fish unknown to me; there are chicken and rabbits; all these things used to be sold in this place by these women, a thousand years ago just as at present; the market remains; the market women remain; the fashion and the material of their frocks are changed; their headdress cannot change, because it is Nature's own—their hair; they wear it gracefully tied up: it is silky and brilliant and abundant. As for the faces of these women, well, there is the young woman who has brown hair, and is comely, honest, and happy—quite contented with her lot. There is the middle-aged woman, who is bearing the full burden of life, with children and bad times and good times. Observe that her face has not hardened with years. Hard or easy her lot may be; she is happy with it. Lastly, there is the old woman; she wears a cap—we need not ask the reason why. An old woman always interests me a great deal more than an old man; she is so very much wiser, to begin with. I see various kinds of old women hereabout; the benevolent, the sagacious, the humorous, the wise, the prophetic. One old lady as I passed read the whole of my past, and prophesied what remains of my future—I am sure she did; I saw it by the recognition of her eye. Among all these faces, of all these women, there is never an unhappy face; not one; not one. Could we say as much of a crowd of Englishwomen? I fear not. And, besides, there is never a bad face, never a vicious face, never a drunken face, never a face stamped with resentment or evil passions. Could we at home say as much? I fear not. It is not safe to conclude too hastily about things. I should, however, like to infer that, since the habits of a life are always more or less clearly stamped upon the face of seventy years, the life of the Laon countrywomen must be innocent, simple, and contented. And all the time there look down upon the market women of Laon the carved oxen which decorate the towers of the Cathedral; poor patient oxen, a symbol of the country life; just as the devils of Notre Dame look down upon the streets of Paris; and the unclean creatures of the roof of Westminster formerly looked down upon the sanctuary of murderers; upon the dens and purlieus round the Abbey of St. Peter and the Palace of the King; and now salute from their proud eminence the Members of the House of Commons as they go in and out.

The more I travel in France the more I am convinced that, as a rule, the French are far happier, more contented, more cheerful, more light-hearted than any other race that I have observed. I speak of the lower and middle classes especially. They work for longer hours than we do, but not so hard, their pay is less, their taxation is higher, but their standard of comfort is cheaper. In essentials it is, I believe, really higher than our own, but it is cheaper. Where in England can one get such a dinner as a little hotel in a country town will serve you up for three francs? Contentment seems to me a virtue peculiarly French. Last Sunday we walked along the Boulevards; the whole town was out in the sunshine; everybody was talking and laughing; no one was grumbling; no one looked unhappy; the women, as I noticed among the market women of Laon, all looked happy. Perhaps it was only pretence. I am not able to offer any explanation of this national superiority in cheerfulness. There is believed to be a good deal of the Celt over here; but we are always told that the Celt is a melancholy nature. So that explanation will not help. It is, perhaps, a happy blend of Celt, and Teuton, and Roman. A weak suggestion, but it is all I can offer.

One more remark. I have been looking at the names over shops. Now English names are either trade names, or place names, or Christian names, or nicknames, or names of countries from which one has come—as Wales, Francis, Norris, Fleming, Lombard, etc. Among the French names I can find no trade names, no Christian names, no names—or very few—which suggest a meaning or an origin. Can anyone tell me of any book or paper on the general subject of French surnames?

MR. SLEIGH ON CURRENCY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—The views of Mr. Webb, your correspondent, which appear in your to-day's issue, are not antagonistic to my own.

However, I would explain that England, like any other country that holds silver in any form, is saddled with the metal, but only in so trifling a degree as compared with its wealth as to bear no analogy with the situation in India. Neither can it be said in any sense that the silver used in England in Art represents the savings of the people.

In the past sixty-two years the amount of silver brought into India values no less than Rs. 453 crores, and the amount minted, less the silver received since the Mints were closed, Rs. 357 crores. The value of the silver plate, in England, which is almost entirely held by the richer classes, can hardly compare with these figures or bear adversely on its gold standard.

Your correspondent misunderstands me when he says that Art "is a most important purpose." I agree with him that it is, and that it should be encouraged as a part of education amongst those who can afford to indulge in it; yet I do not consider that the poorer classes in India are justified in buying silver ornaments or objects of art, while they find difficulty in providing the necessaries of life and are over head and ears in debt to the money-lenders!

As to silver not having depreciated, I would point out that in relation to nearly all articles produced in India, the rupee will buy about the same as formerly, but for all articles imported into the country, such as machinery, coal, iron, brass, copper, piece-goods, etc., the rupee will not buy nearly as much; nor does the depreciated rupee allow the country to benefit by the fall in gold prices brought about by inventions and increased production of raw commodities.

Your correspondent, I fear, is facetious and has become "sic" over the expression "duties of international barter." If he prefers the verbose expression "the duties of currency in relation to international barter," or the use of the word "functions" in place of "duties," he is welcome, as they carry no difference in my mind.—Yours, &c.,

May 14. JAS. H. SLEIGH.

THE DUBLIN FUSILIERS.

THEIR FORTHCOMING DEPARTURE FOR SOUTH AFRICA.

Two companies of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers, which are at Deesa, will leave that place on the 19th and arrive at Ahmedabad on the morning of the 20th instant. One company now at that city and the above two companies will leave Ahmedabad on the evening of the 20th instant, arriving in Sassoon Dock next morning. The above troops will embark on board the Transport Bancoora from Government Dock Wet Basin; and the Bancoora will leave on the 22nd instant. The steamer Bancoora is now in the company's Dry Dock, where she is being repaired and fitted up for conveying the troops. She will leave the company's dock and enter the Government Wet Basin on Sunday or Monday next. The Royal Indian Marine steamer Canning has entered the Government Dock, where she is taking in stores and provisions. The R. I. M. S. Canning will carry 11 officers, 2 Warrant officers, 2 women, 8 children, 400 men rank-and-file, 16 wives, and 27 children; and the Transport Bancoora will convey 12 officers, 3 ladies, 3 Warrant officers, 3 wives, 6 children, and 575 men rank-and-file.

A special committee will assemble at the Quarter-Master's Stores, 2nd Battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers, at 7 a.m., to-day, to examine and report on equipment, etc. It will consist of Major T. F. Chamberlain, R. A., as president, a Captain, 2nd Royal Dublin Fusiliers, and an Ordnance Officer. All men of the Fusiliers employed on Garrison duties will be temporarily relieved by the men of the Royal Artillery, pending arrival of the 2nd Battalion, Middlesex Regiment.

I can hardly say, writes a lady correspondent who subscribers herself "T," how very much we shall all regret the Dublin Fusiliers leaving Bombay. They are a very smart regiment, and we shall miss their splendid band at the Yacht Club and the Band-stand, where it has often played by moonlight, and we can't say how very sorry we are to say good-bye to Colonel Cooper. How we shall miss his jovial face and a kind word for everyone as he always had. We shall also be sorry to part with the young officers, who are "jolly good fellows." We have enjoyed many concerts given by the men of the regiment, some of whom have great dramatic talent. We can only hope, in wishing them goodbye, that we may all meet again some day, and wishing them the best of luck at the Cape, will say *au revoir* to them and *bon voyage*.

ROYAL INDIAN MARINE APPOINTMENTS AND TRANSFERS.

3RD MAY.—Mr. William Willoughby Cole Frith, appointed by the Secretary of State for India a Sub-Lieutenant in the Royal Indian Marine, reported himself, and is appointed to the R. I. M. S. Minto.

4th May.—Assistant Engineer W. C. Sharvell left to join R. I. M. S. Sladen.

6th May.—Lieutenant C. R. Ford, R. I. M. S. Minto, proceeded on 60 days' privilege leave from the 7th instant.

11th May.—Engineer S. H. Stevenson, Foreman of the Factory, Bombay Dockyard, appointed Inspector of Machinery, sub. pro tem, with effect from 30th April 1897. Assistant Engineer C. T. Amor, R. I. M. S. Canning, appointed Foreman of the Factory, sub. pro-tem. with effect from 30th April 1897.

13th May.—Sub.-Lieutenant W. C. Taylor, Marine Survey of India, permitted to proceed on one year's leave from 15th instant.

THE ATTEMPT TO DERAIL A TRAIN.

THE *Englishman* calls attention to the extraordinary sentence passed on the man who tried to wreck the Darjiling mail train near Domur the other day. That a man who deliberately placed seven sleepers and an iron rail on the railway line, and actually succeeded in throwing the engine of the mail train off the line, should be sentenced to four month's imprisonment is nothing less than a grotesque miscarriage of justice. Such a sentence would be a light one for an ordinary assault. It was not the fault of the man that he did not perpetrate wholesale murder; he certainly attempted in the most methodical manner to commit culpable homicide. In the public interests the High Court should be moved to interfere. To allow such a scandal to pass is to place a premium upon criminal outrage. The Deputy Magistrate of Nilphamari is responsible for this latest judicial eccentricity. The details of the case were as under:—

At the instance of the Sealdah Railway authorities Inspector T. C. Dass, of the Government Railway Police, on Thursday instant prosecuted before the Deputy Magistrate of Nilphamari a man named Jummon Sheikh, with attempting to wreck the Darjeeling mail train. The accused had been a gateman in the service of the Railway, but had been dismissed. Desirous of avenging his supposed wrongs he planned to wreck the Darjeeling mail train. On the night of the occurrence he proceeded in disguise to a place near the Domar Railway Station. It being a moonlight night he managed to get together seven sleepers, and an iron rail about 20 feet long, which he placed across the rails. Shortly after the down Darjeeling mail dashed against the obstruction, the result luckily being only some damage to the engine, which was thrown off the lines. The passengers only received a smart shock. The local police, failing to bring the investigation to a satisfactory issue, the Sealdah Railway Police succeeded, though not without some difficulty, in arresting the accused, who, pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to four months' rigorous imprisonment.

MILITARY NEWS.

PRIVILEGE leave of absence is granted to Lieutenant R. St. J. Gillespie, R. E., No. 2 Section, Sub-Marine Mining Company, Butcher's Island, from 3rd June to 1st August next.

REVIEWS.

HIS MAJESTY'S GREATEST SUBJECT, by S. S. Thorburn (Archibald Constable & Co., 2, Whitehall Gardens, London). The confession of a hero's weakness is what few people hear, and very few heroes willingly make, in spite of the well-known axiom that to err is human. It is probably due to a doubt that the divine attribute of forgiveness may not be extended by his fellowmen that makes the average hero unwilling to lay bare his errors. "His Majesty's Greatest Subject" being at the portals of death, consented to dictate a very sustained and entertaining avowal of the great deception of his life. He resisted for forty-five long and happy years, first the prompting of his conscience, then the entreaties of his noble wife to "proclaim the truth and trust to the magnanimity of all imperial souled Englishmen and Englishwomen." But he could not bring himself to face the risk that the national soul might condemn instead of praise him, and dreaded lest his fellows might turn from him as from an impostor. "It would be death in life without that 'resurrection in the minds of men,' which deprives physical extinction of half its horror," he thought, and so it came to pass that the truth was only written down before he died, to be given to the world when he had ceased to be the subject of any mortal ruler. This confession is the very amusing and instructive story which Mr. Thorburn has woven for his eager readers. Jack Thornhill was one of twins, but the younger of the two by a few minutes; consequently his slightly elder brother was heir to their father's estates and titles; he, being the younger son, could only expect the younger son's portion. Now, nature had endowed him more generously than the laws of his land, and he was more fitted in many ways to rule than his brother Cecil, who was studious, prudent, plodding, and so conscientious that often the opportunity to do good and wise things passed, while he debated as to the absolute correctness of their details. Jack was a born organiser and diplomatist, quick at games, languages, and all that had to do with intercourse and influence with his kind. They went their several ways at school and at college, and then out into the world, remaining attached brothers and excellent friends, until they both fell in love, as twins will, with the same girl, Jean Vincent. She loved and encouraged Jack, but being a prudent young person, engages herself to Cecil, the future Earl of Severn. Jack, in disgust, goes to travel; Cecil sets about climbing the political tree, and from M. P. for his own county, becomes Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, and is straight on the way for high preferment and still unmarried. Jack after five years of varied travel all over the world is in India, lazily shooting crocodiles, at the time that the first occasion for self-effacement offers itself. New self-effacement was not exactly in Jack's line, some powerful motive must have been at work to induce him to take such a course. He had made up his mind to shoot certain crocodiles which he had seen basking on a distant sand spit in the bed of the Trimali, on the morrow. He retires in the first fervour of this good resolution to his tent, sleeps on his camp-bed, is attacked by a most unearthly night-mare, and wakes to the sound of rushing swirling waters—the country had been breathlessly waiting the monsoon rains up to that night—and finds his tent lying on top of him, his odds and ends of camp furniture being swung round, preparatory to the final set-off into the raging Trimali, the waters of which were by this time foaming round in the black darkness of a stormy night. Jack had nothing, if not presence of mind. He grasped the situation, stumbled against his cane-chair, and after flashes of lightning had revealed the state of his camping ground, and roars of thunder had added to its horrors, he decided that death was at hand, and threw himself into his cane-chair, in which by some fortunate, but most unusual chance, an air-pillow was securely sewn. This saved his life, he was promptly caught in the turmoil of the water, and swept down for miles like a cork in a mill-race. It was not in human brain to live consciously through such an experience; and after holding on for what seemed an interminable time, and resisting the shocks of many bumps against all sorts of things, he fainted and woke up to find the scene changed, and his cane-chair grounded in a little bay on a bank of reeds under shady trees. Now begins the romance. Jack hears voices, sweet ones and happy laughter, and presently sees two nymphs coming to bathe, attended by a stout woman. These, in short, are the Princess of Sultanabad, her attendant, and her duenna, Miss Holmes. The Princess has the sharpest eyes, and seeing Jack Ravenhill apparently asleep, draws near him. He opens his eyes to be dazzled by her beauty. She addresses him in English, and decides, though she is a Purdah Mahomedan Princess to save this half-drowned man, and tells him so:—"I'll save you: you look nice and so clean." A good and sufficient reason for a generous action. Act II. in Jack's inversion of his life. Sultanabad is, he learns, the chief Mahomedan State in India, and no man must be admitted into the zenana. Miss Holmes, at the urgent entreaty of the young Princess, consents to save Jack and keep him hidden in her own suite of apartments until a favourable opportunity for his escape offers itself. By that time Jack has fallen hopelessly in love with Melissa, and does not want to escape, but determines to consider himself drowned. He assumes the disguise of a Mullah from Samarkand, when the young Sardar Abdul Hak, of all people, who intends to be the husband of the Princess, presents himself, and with the courage born of absolute ignorance Jack heads the local Mullahs and objects to the orthodoxy of the Sardar and his high priests. The consequence is that he manages a reprieve for the Princess, and is now obliged to act as chief Mullah, continue to wear his disguise and he can see the Princess often in his character of instructor of the Faithful. After Jack had succeeded in getting the Sardar banished, and been installed three years as Chief Mullah of Sultanabad and Prime Minister of the State as well, he reads in the "Gazette of India" that his brother is installed as Viceroy. This was a surprise, but a greater was in store when the Princess shows him an autograph letter from the Viceroy offering to pay a visit to her State, where he wishes to observe the excellent system of government which makes it a model kingdom. We must not tell the whole story of how the second phase of temptation stole over the soul of Jack, who for the sake of the lovely Princess Melissa had allowed himself to be deplored by his family and friends as swept away and drowned three years before. He now sinks his identity still deeper, and becomes Viceroy by an extraordinary stroke of fate. He had no poor opinion of his own gifts, and rose to the situation with few qualms, and without much difficulty mastered the details of the position. All this impossible romance is, we fancy, only the very picturesque peg on which to hang many political and social theories which are made to work out to a wonderful degree of success. The Viceroy that Jack develops has no fear in his heart, he has almost more than the courage of his convictions, he has high conceptions of duty, and a determination to perform that duty though Councils and Secretaries of State should interfere and busybodies misinterpret and chatter. One of his measures would make the mouth of many a Viceroy and Governor water. He "decided to treat as political offenders the sedition-mongers, both white and brown, who were swarming throughout the peninsula, preaching treason and stirring up disaffection against the British dominion. . . . . What I caused to be done was to have several hundreds of these gentry suddenly arrested, and confined in different jails as political offenders. Some half a-dozen of them, who wrote M. P. after their names, and a few home newspaper men were quietly put on board steamers, returning to Great Britain by the Cape. One morning India awoke to find that three hundred busybodies had disappeared." Calcutta got back a very different Viceroy from the one that went to Sultanabad, and wondered exceedingly. Timidity had departed. No measure was too difficult or too complicated for Jack to attack and carry through successfully. Needless to say, he drives his Council to despair, as he insists on leaving beaten tracks, but as he is a "strong man" he will walk alone, and make and interpret his own speeches. The real Viceroy had arranged that Miss Jean Vincent should come to Calcutta, where their wedding should take place. Now this was a terribly tight place for Jack. He was determined to rule India in place of his brother, but marry Jean Vincent he would not. Melissa was the only woman in the world for him, though there seemed little probability of his being able to make her his wife. The difficulty of arranging all this has to be got through, and an amusing performance it is. There is no doubt that Jack is a good all-round man, and he comes forth from this battle triumphant. When he is in Simla whither Melissa has been brought after troubles in her own State to stay with Mrs. Byng—Jean Vincent that was—Jack is more impatient than becomes a stately Viceroy. He feels the irksomeness of viceregal etiquette. "I was glued on the top of a ridge for the next three months—alone—alone—unable to eat, sleep, ride, or walk without my every word and deed being commented on and criticised by an army of well-disciplined officials and their wives and daughters. . . . . An impassable barrier, in the form of a time-honored code of strict conventions—to say nothing of the long gauntlet of a watchful censorious mall, lay between me and Melissa." We need hardly ask if a self-willed and broad-minded Viceroy allowed all this to separate him long from the Princess. The romance of his life must have its way, and he characteristically makes it a triumph and an addition to his strength as ruler of India. All this time at home, war between England and France, with Russia for her ally, threatened, and when war was declared, the opportunity is seized by our clever Viceroy to quietly cut the telegraphic cable when he wanted to carry out unimpeded his own ideas of legislation for India. It was so easy to suppose that France had managed to break the communications. A fight on the Frontier with Russia is one of the crowning mercies of Jack's Viceroyalty, and builds up his fame as "His Majesty's Greatest Subject." Mr. Thorburn interests us immensely in his story, in his theories, and in the daring romance of his situations.

THE STUDIO (5, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London) for April, had for its first paper "The Work of T. Millie Dow," with a portrait of the painter, and numerous illustrations of his pictures. The frontispiece, "Eve" in the act of artlessly plucking the forbidden apple, is a pretty though unfinished study. In "On the Choice of Simple Furniture," by M. H. Baillie Scott, he suggests that we should, in furnishing our houses, seek for simple appropriateness instead of expensive ugliness. The writer advises people not to imagine, as they usually do, that they cannot afford artistic surroundings. It is solely a case for well-directed intelligence. Designs of artistic and not too extravagant chairs, cabinets, side-boards, &c., are given here, but they seem a little heavy and cumbrous. "Alexandre Charpentier" gives an aperçu of a French artist who has produced original and delightful results in the modern decorative movement. The bas-relief is his forte, and in it he has produced some very beautiful work. "Mortimer Menpes Japanese Drawings" gives some new pictures from this enthusiastic student of Japanese subjects. In his last visit to that enchanting land, he chiefly concerned himself with the life of the people, and has brought back many exquisite and characteristic sketches. There are some sweet pictures of Jap children. One specially called "Reflections." is dainty in the extreme. Some of this artist's work is in oils, some in pen and ink, some in chalk, some in monochrome, and all displaying his special delicacy of touch. These works will shortly be exhibited at Messrs. Dowdeswell's galleries in London. "Evolution of Village Architecture in England" is the subject of an interesting illustrated paper. The pictures are all of modern cottages in their various developments which people begin at last to see can be pretty as well as adopted to the wants of the working men's families who will live in them. "Studio-talk" brings as usual much art information from far and near, and many of the pictures described are given in illustration. The STUDIO brings out shortly three extra numbers, "The Royal Academy," "The New Gallery," and "The Paris Salons," in which the principal works of art at these exhibitions will be reproduced. The first two will contain sixty pictures, and will cost one shilling each, and the third will reproduce nearly a hundred; its price will be one shilling and sixpence.

THE QUEEN'S EMPIRE is the name of a new publication, compiled by Messrs. Cassell and Co., London. In this pictorial and descriptive record of Her Majesty's Reign, each part will be illustrated with twenty-four full-page reproductions of photographs bearing on the subjects dealt with. The introduction is by H. O. Arnold Foster, M. P. Each part will have one subject or class of subjects, such as "Work and Workers," showing the great diversity of the employments of Her Majesty's subjects throughout the Empire. "Places of Worship," giving the great Cathedrals of the United Kingdom, the Christian Churches in many lands, and the mosques, temples, etc., in which other subjects of Victoria worship. The work is in fine a picture-book, made as comprehensive as possible. Part I. "The Government of the Empire" contains a unique series of photographs of the great Legislative Assemblies of the Colonial Empire actually at work, and many other pictures bearing on the machinery of Government.

ABOUT CATHERINE DE' MEDICI, by H. de Balzac (Macmillan and Co., London and Bombay). This very interesting study of Catherine de' Medici and her times, was Balzac's most determined effort to accomplish a historical novel. He attacked his subject in three definite parts. In the first, really written last, he minutely details the points in the singular character of Catherine, and describes her cramped and peculiar position as unloved wife of the Dauphin of France. Catherine's ruling passions were ambition and astrology. She was a beautiful woman, but had little of the weaknesses to which beauty is sometimes subject, and for the many years that her husband as Dauphin and as Henry II. was the devoted slave of Diane de Poitiers, she bore herself with prudence and coolness. As Queen Mother of three Kings she was able to satisfy her love of power, though beset by many vexatious intrigues. A large place in the book is given to the Calvinist Martyr Lecamus, and we see much of the inner working of the policy that led to persecution of the enthusiastic reformers. Neither side saw that they were spared or betrayed entirely according to the whim of their ambitious rulers and in the stress of their struggles for power. The second part brings out that love of astrology which was ingrained in Catherine's nature, and which, indeed, was her one form of sincere belief. Charles IX. had come to the French throne, and his yielding and weak disposition left all power really in the hands of his imperious mother, whom he absolutely dreaded. Had she been able to transmit some of her spirit into the Kings, her sons, it would have been better for them. They all were singularly deficient in will and brain-power. These studies of Catherine are somewhat wanting in sequence of narrative. We wish in reading them that Balzac had been less staccato, and had condescended to the possible ignorance in his reader of the true story of the intrigues and politics of the time. Such a student of history as Balzac was could have filled in many a hiatus, and done more than give moral dissertations, seeking too often to reason away inexcusable laches in political morality on the part of his heroine. The third part of the book does not pretend to be historical, it is a relation of two dreams of a century later, pointing a moral in regard to the worst acts of Catherine.

PRESENTATION TO MR. J. HEWITT.

A MEETING of Bombay timber dealers was held yesterday, at the office of Messrs. Wallace and Co., secretaries, treasurers, and agents of the Bombay-Burmah Trading Corporation, Limited, to present a valedictory address and a parting gift (a purse) to Mr. John Hewitt, manager of the timber department, who retires after a service of twenty-seven years and proceeds home by to-day's mail steamer. A number of Parsee, Mahomedan, and Hindu dealers were present on the occasion.

Mr. Furdoonjee Cursetjee, a timber dealer, read the following address:—

To John Hewitt, Esq., Bombay-Burmah Trading Corporation, Limited, Bombay.

Honoured Sir,—We, the undersigned timber dealers of Bombay, respectfully desire your acceptance of the accompanying present as a small token of our esteem for you personally, and our grateful appreciation of your just and fair dealings with us during the 27 years and a-half you have held office in the above Corporation. (Applause.) In bidding you farewell, we wish you a long continuance of the happiness and prosperity which have attended your career here, and beg to remain, etc.

Mr. Furdoonjee then presented to Mr. Hewitt the address and the present referred to therein (a purse).

Mr. Hewitt, in reply, said: I am agreeably surprised to find so many of the timber dealers present in office to-day to wish me good-bye on my departure for England. It is needless to say I appreciate your kindness in doing so; and I thank you all very much for the handsome present subscribed for. Most, if not all, of you have been doing business with the Corporation ever since I joined Messrs. Wallace and Co. in 1870. I am gratified to know that during all these twenty-seven years my endeavour to deal fairly between you and the Corporation have been so well received and so favourably spoken of. In saying good bye, I thank you for your kindness, and I hope your timber business will prosper in the future as it has done in the past. (Applause.)

Mr. Hewitt was then garlanded and presented with a bouquet of flowers; and the proceedings terminated.

THE INDIAN ARMY AND THE DIAMOND JUBILEE.

THE following is a list of the twenty-two Native officers, and the Cavalry regiments to which they belong, who are proceeding, to-day, by the mail steamer Caledonia, to represent the Indian Army in the Diamond Jubilee procession:—

Risaldar Nadir Khan, 9th Bengal Lancers.
Risaldar-Major Khan Bahadur, 10th Beng. Lancers.
Risaldar Gardatt Sing, 12th Beng. Cavalry.
Risaldar-Major Sher Singh, 13th Beng. Lancers.
Risaldar-Major Hukam Singh, 16th Beng. Cavalry.
Risaldar-Major Izzakhan, 17th Beng. Cavalry.
Risaldar-Major Kesur Singh, 5th Punj. Cavalry.
Jamadar Adul Karim, Viceroy's Body Guard.
Risaldar-Major Ali Mahomed Khan, 2nd Bng. Lcrs.
Risaldar-Major Mangal Sing, 3rd Bang. Cavalry.
Risaldar Kadam Khan, 4th Beng. Cavalry.
Risaldar-Major Abdul Aziz, 5th Beng. Cavalry.
Risaldar Netram, 7th Beng. Cavalry.
Risaldar Makbul Khan, 8th Beng. Cavalry.
Subedar Mohamed Beg, 1st Madras Lancers.
Risaldar-Major Hussain Khan, 2nd Lancers, H.C.
Risaldar-Major Meharabali Khan, 3rd Lcrs. H. C.
Risaldar-Maj. Bahauddin Khan, A.-D.-C. to Viceroy.
Risaldar Jehangir Khan, 1st Bombay Lancers.
Risaldar-Major Mohamed Umerkhan, 5th Bo. Clry.
Risaldar-Major Faiz Khan, 6th Bo. Cavalry.
Risaldar Mir Haider Sha Khan, 7th Bo. Lancers.

Lieutenant-Colonel J. C. F. Gordon, 6th Bengal Cavalry, is in command of these troops, assisted by Major A. Phayre, 3rd Bombay Light Cavalry, and Major J. G. Turner, of the Viceroy's Body Guard.

FATAL THUNDERSTORM IN NEPAL.

DURING the course of a thunderstorm on the afternoon of the 3rd May, in the Valley of Nepal, says a contemporary, a thatched house, inhabited by a family of Newars—the cultivating class—was struck by lightning, with specially sad results. The house, in common with the rest of those of its kind in the valley, was built of mud with a small upper storey, and deeply thatched roof, and was situated a short distance from the Residency on slightly rising ground, with no trees in its vicinity.

The wife of the owner had that morning given birth to a child, who was lying close to his mother, in the upper storey. The electric fluid entered from above, killing the mother, but passing by the babe. Another woman, who was in the house, escaped. Several coolies, including men, woman, and children, had taken refuge from the storm in the small front verandah on the ground floor. Of these a man and woman were struck dead, as well as a goat, while one child so narrowly escaped destruction that his hair was singed. Some distance further off a tree was struck and a woman near it was stunned by the shock. The storm was by no means one of exceptional severity, though its results were so disastrous

THE EPIDEMIC.

THE Municipal Office returns for the twenty-four hours ending at 6 a.m. yesterday give the following results:—

WARD		PLAGUE. Attacks.	PLAGUE. Deaths.	Deaths from all Causes.
A	Upper Colaba	0	0	6
	Mid. & Lower Colaba	0	3	
	Fort, Southern	0	0	
	Fort, Northern	1	0	
	Esplanade	0	0	
B	Mandvie	4	0	18
	Chukla	0	0	
	Oomarkhari	0	0	
	Dongri	1	0	
C	Market	1	0	15
	Dhobi Talao	0	0	
	Fanaswady	0	0	
	Bhuleshwar	1	1	
	Khara Talao	0	0	
	Kumbharwada	1	0	
D	Khetwady	0	0	4
	Girgaum	0	0	
	Chowpatty	0	0	
	Walkeshwar	1	0	
	Mahalakshmi	0	0	
E	Mazagon	0	0	17
	Tarwady	0	0	
	Second Nagpada	0	0	
	Kamatipura	1	0	
	Tardeo	0	0	
	Byculla	0	0	
	First Nagpada	0	0	
F	Parel	0	0	4
	Sewri	0	0	
	Sion	0	0	
G	Mahim	0	0	3
	Worli	0	0	
	Water Division	0	0	0
	Non-Resident & Unknown	0	1	5
	HOSPITALS.			
	Lohana	0	0	7
	Parsi	0	0	
	Jain	0	1	
	Grant Road	0	1	
	Sion Road	0	0	
	St. George's	0	0	
	Mahim Custom Road	0	1	
	Adamjee Peerbhoy	0	1	
	Parel	0	0	
	Cutchi Dosi Osv. Bania	0	0	
	Telegu	0	0	
	Ripon Road	0	0	
	Hindu	0	2	
	Dharavi Plague	0	0	
	Arthur Road	0	0	
	Custom Road	0	0	
	Khoja	0	0	
	Dariasthan	0	1	
	Modikhana	0	0	
	Cutchee Memon	0	0	
	Chinchpoogly	0	0	
	Port Trust	0	0	
	Worli Plague	0	0	
	Nizampura	0	0	
	Marwadi Falehpur	0	0	
	Pinjrapo'e	0	0	
	Chhatri Sarang	0	0	
	Bhattia	0	0	
	Total	11	12	79
	Total to date...	12,271	10,465	

OFFICIAL SUMMARY.

The following is the summary of the weekly returns in connection with the bubonic plague, prepared for the information of Government, for the week ending 6 a.m. on Thursday, the 13th instant:—

HOUSES INSPECTED AS TO FITNESS FOR HUMAN HABITATION.	
No. of houses visited	961
,, condemned	50
,, requiring alteration	89
,, referred for opinion to Engineer's Department	11
HOUSES INSPECTED IN REGARD TO WATER-CONNECTIONS.	
No. of houses visited	648
,, where water-connections cut off	32
,, where water-taps repaired	10
MEASURES ADOPTED IN HOUSES.	
No. of houses disinfected and flushed	236
,, lime-washed	135
,, where roofs opened	66
,, where floors dug up	25
,, vacated	29
,, destroyed by fire	23
,, where disinfectants were distributed	1,749
DRAINS.	
Length cleansed	[illegible]
GULLIES.	
No. of gullies flushed	[illegible]
HOSPITALS.	
No. of patients	[illegible]
,, deaths	[illegible]
,, recoveries	[illegible]
,, patients under treatment	[illegible]
WARD RETURNS.	
Attacks	120
Deaths	70
TOTAL MORTALITY.	
Week under report	555
Previous week	620

Remarks.—The total mortality during the week was 555 against 670, 681, 772, 950, 988, 1,101, 1,131, 1,213, 1,287, 1,397, 1,605, and 1,754 in the twelve preceding weeks.

REPLACING THE TILES OF ROOFS.

Dr. Weir has issued a circular to the medical officers of the various districts in the city, stating that, as the general health of the city is improving, and the monsoon was nearing, the tiles removed for the purposes of ventilation from the roofs of houses and chawls should be re-arranged.

SHOPS AND HOUSES CLOSED.

About seven hundred shops and seventy-one private houses are closed in Kamatipura, Nagpada, and other districts in E ward.

A MURDERER ATTACKED WITH PLAGUE SYMPTOMS.

Inspector Jolliffe, yesterday, charged Shivgar Unigar, before Mr. W. Webb, Third Presidency Magistrate, under the following circumstances: A telegram was received by the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Bombay, from the Superintendent of Police, Balabanki, giving the description of two men and requesting their arrest on the charge of the murder of Thakordevi, in a village called Basawari, in the district of Oudh. Within twenty-four hours of the receipt of the information, Inspector Jolliffe arrested two men at Vithalwadi, who answered the description given to the police. The two men, Bhota and Shivgar, were then sent with an escort of armed police to Balabanki by the Commissioner of Police. When they reached Kalyan, as a result of the medical inspection, Bhola was detained in the observation ward. He was then suffering from the fever. The other man was brought back to Bombay, and placed before the magistrate. He was remanded in police custody, pending the recovery of his companion.

INFLUX AND EXODUS.

During the twenty-four hours ending 6 a.m. yesterday, the persons who left Bombay and entered the city by road and sea were as follows:—Arrivals by sea, 2,579, and by land through Mahim and Sion causeways 3,475, making a total of 6,054 persons. Departures by sea, 810, and by land through Mahim and Sion causeways 3,290, making a total of 4,100 persons. Excess of arrivals over departures 1,954 persons.

HINDU FEVER HOSPITAL.

From 6 a.m. 13th May to 6 a.m. 14th May three died and twenty were remaining under treatment.

THE CUTCHEE MEMON PLAGUE HOSPITAL.

The following are the returns for the 24 hours ending at 8 o'clock yesterday morning:—Convalescent 3 and under treatment 5.

SIND.

KARACHI, May 11.

There were eight fresh cases of plague to-day and 10 deaths, raising the total to 4,024 cases and 3,294 deaths.

THANA.

A correspondent, writing on Thursday, says:—Mr. Logan, the Collector, and his Personal Assistant in charge of the Plague offices are now at Sopara, in the Bassein Taluka, where they are exerting themselves in stamping out the plague, which has seriously broken out there lately. Private Martin, belonging to a British Regiment, has, as a temporary measure, been appointed an Inspector of burial and burning-grounds at this station. Babool Mooljee Khoja and his two sons, residing in ChanneeStreet, were found suffering from the bubonic plague yesterday. They were immediately removed to the Municipal Segregation Hospital for treatment. The Parsee woman of Bombay, who was in the Parsee Segregation Hospital at Kalwa, died on Sunday last. The Parsee Punchayet of Thana have removed their hospital from the village of Kalwa to Sidee Baug, in Thana. At the instance of Mr. Kasinath Balwant, Plague Inspector, Ganput Ganoo Sindia, a day-labourer, was tried by the Huzur Deputy Collector and First Class Magistrate on the 11th instant and fined Re 1 for concealing a plague case in his house in the Bazaar Street.—A rice (in husk) cleaning factory is to be built at Kallyan by a Mahomedan rice merchant there shortly.—It is reported that about 30 per cent. enhanced taxation in the land revenue will be taken from the ryots (cultivators) from the 1st day of August next in the Salsette (Thana) Taluka, according to the Revision Settlement made here in 1895.—Mr. D. G. Kalay has been appointed Head Accountant in the Huzur Treasury office, vice Mr. K. N. Joshee, retired on pension last month. Mr. M. W. Kirtanay, Deputy Educational Inspector, has been appointed a member in the Taluka Local Board, Thana, vice Mr. R. V. Gadre, resigned.

LOWER DAMAUN.

Our correspondent, writing on Thursday, says:—Yesterday a marked decrease in the plague mortality was recorded, there being a reduction of exactly fifty per cent. compared with that of the previous day. It is the minimum mortality as yet recorded during

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he last two months. This must be attributed to hree-fourths of the population having left infected ouses for numerous mandwas erected at different laces out of the city, at the persuasion, in some cases breats, and in some help, of Shet Sorabji. The decrease in the attacks is noted from the reduction of he number of persons who call at the Shet's residence or free medicine, whose number up to date has come up to 2,100, irrespective of those treated by Mr. Antone Fernandes, a passed medical student, for and at the expense of the Shet. The free distribution of medicine is not restricted to poorpersons only, as many well-to-do persons having faith in the Shet's medicine freely take advantage of it. This generosity has within the last week been further extended by the Shet's cousin, Mr. Cowasji, being permitted to supply disinfectants, soap, honey, tapioca, sago and mustard to every person demanding them. The whole population is grateful to Shet Sorabji for staying in the city to transact his large business instead of going away as he annually does at this season.

THE BOMBAY FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE first ordinary general meeting of shareholders of the company was held yesterday, at the registered office, Hummum Street, Mr. Bomanjee Dinshaw Petit, chairman of the board of directors, presiding. The following directors' report was presented:—

The directors now beg to submit their report, together with the audited accounts of the company, for the period ended 31st March last. The company was registered on the 1st of July 1896, and as the capital was over-subscribed, the board proceeded to allotment on the 21st idem. Business was commenced on the 23rd July 1896, since which date premia to the amount of Rs. 34,645-4-1 have been collected and claims to the amount of Rs. 10-0-5 paid. The company has passed through a time of deep commercial depression, and the board and secretaries have exercised their best discretion and prudence in the selection of business. The balance at credit of the profit and loss account amounts to Rs. 22,763-12-9, which sum the board recommend to be carried forward to next year's account. The directors retiring by rotation are Mr. Bomanjee Dinshaw Petit, Mr. Fazulbhoy Visram, C.I.E., and Mr. Goverdhandas Khatao, all of whom are eligible for re-election.

The Chairman, in addressing the meeting, said: I am very pleased to meet you here on the occasion of this our first ordinary annual general meeting, more particularly so as we have a highly satisfactory report and balance-sheet to present to you for the short period the company has carried on active business operations. In starting a business such as ours in a city like Bombay, where the great bulk of property is already insured, we have to wait patiently until existing policies fall due for the business to come to us. You must bear in mind that we are a local office, and one of our chief reasons for starting was that Bombay might effect its own insurances, and not be under the necessity of remitting lakhs of rupees as premia to foreign or distant countries. You all know what a dreadful time of trouble and anxiety, due to pestilence and famine, we have passed through lately, and if it has been difficult to transact one's ordinary business; how much more so must it have been to start a new business during such a period. Taking these circumstances into consideration, I am sure you will agree with me in thinking that the results attained are satisfactory and reflect credit on the management. (Hear, hear.) Gentlemen, I consider that the secret of success in this line of business is due to a careful selection of the business accepted or risks insured. we can, I think, if our shareholders continue to support us with business, command a paying and safe and remunerative class of business, and by declining all those risks which we deem unduly hazardous, we will, I trust, continue to prosper, and gain the confidence of the public as a solid and well-managed institution. If the amount of premia we have collected may appear small to some shareholders, we must ask them to consider it fairly safe, and by steadily keeping the above object in view, I have no doubt we shall soon reach the prosperous and dividend-paying stage. Meantime, your board consider that the premia collected up to date should be retained so as to form a fund to meet any possible claims that may arise in future. (Applause.)

The directors' report and audited accounts were approved and confirmed. Messrs. Bomanjee Dinshaw Petit, Fazulbhoy Visram, C. I. E., and Goverdhandas Khatao, who retired by rotation, were re-elected directors. Messrs. Alex. F. Ferguson and Nasserwanjee Sorabjee Jamsetjee were appointed auditors on a remuneration of Rs. 125 each. The thanks of the shareholders were recorded to the chairman, directors, and the secretaries and agents for their satisfactory management of the company's business during the period ended 31st March 1897, and the proceedings ended with the customary compliment to the chairman.

HARDWAR AND THE PLAGUE.

WHEN the history of the plague comes to be fully written, it will be recognised that one of the most striking episodes of its career in India was its appearance and complete eradication at a place like Hardwar. It was just on the eve of the great spring gatherings which bring people together from all parts of India to the sacred spot where the Ganges issues from the Himalayas that three or four apparently unquestionable cases of the disease were reported, the victims on this occasion being residents of the town itself. It will be easily understood what unseasonable intelligence this must have been to the Government. Nevertheless, rather than put an interdict upon the Fair, the authorities determined to deal with the matter by local conservancy measures which they judged, and as it turns out judged rightly, could be made sufficiently effective to secure the public safety. The suspected quarter was quietly cleared out and the inhabitants taken off and segregated on an island in the river. Thence they were brought daily by boats to the bathing places, and taken back again after having bathed, without having mixed with the general population: and the Fair and bathing festival passed off without a single other case of sickness. Later on, however, a couple of fresh cases were discovered, and the patients were traced to a lodging-house in which were staying a party of Sindhis, some of whom were also found to be suffering from the plague. In all there were five of these cases, which had clearly been imported from Karachi. Fortunately the vigilant watch that had been kept had detected the disease early, and fortunately also the quarter where the lodging-house was situated was a mohulla outside the city, whose isolation and disinfection were comparatively easy. The people seem to have been fully aware of the reality of the danger, and to have behaved most reasonably when the facts were pointed out to them. The measures that experience prescribes were carried out, and as there has been no fresh case of the disease—the last was on the 22nd April—it may fairly be taken as having been successfully stamped out. It is hardly needful to add that a great peril has thus been removed, one may say without exaggeration, from the whole of India. The mere fact that in spite of all railway precautions the disease managed to penetrate to Hardwar across the entire breadth of the land sufficiently shows what an unrivalled centre of dissemination the place would have been had the plague once effected a lodgement therein. The quietness and absence of fuss, moreover, with which the emergency has been treated contrasts with the rather hysterical way in which the Government of these Provinces dealt with Hardwar on the occasion of the cholera outbreak of a few years back, when the right steps were taken so much in the wrong way that the result was a wave of Hindu discontent, which revealed itself a little later in the tree-smearing movement and the kine-killing agitation.—*Pioneer.*

CHINA NEWS.

THE Peking-Hankow Railway scheme, which is presided over by the notorious Sheng, is in a bad way, and it is doubtful if the work will be carried on. The Chinese capitalists being acquainted with Sheng's past career, refuse to advance money, and no foreign capital has been as yet attracted. It is rumoured with some degree of truth, we believe, that Sheng is endeavouring to obtain money from the other self-governed sources of which he is chief director, for the establishment of the Bank, and that he intends to utilize the capital of the Bank for carrying out insignificant portions of railway with the object of attracting additional capital. It is probable that Sheng may yet be thrown over by the Government, notwithstanding the enormous bribes he has paid to secure himself at the head of the Railway Administration.

It is stated from Peking that Germany is endeavouring to obtain the financing of a loan of one hundred million taels to China. German financiers, it is stated, have offered to negotiate the loan at 15 per cent. and price of 9? or security of the land tax. The Russians and French are also said to be in the field with the salt revenue as security. The rumour that the Hongkong Bank and the Deutsch Asiatische, who jointly financed the last loan, were anxious to obtain the financing of this loan is denied apparently with some authority.

A Szechuen famine relief fund has been started at Shanghai, and the amount received up till 22nd April was Tls. 14,020.

A telegram received by Rev. J. B. Martinet, of the French Procuration of the Mission Etrangeres de Paris, Hongkong from Kweishen, on the West River, states that the mission chapel at Loli had been pillaged, and a young missionary named Rev. Mazel, murdered by thieves.

The Hongkong Jubilee Celebration Committee have at last decided as to what form the permanent memorial of Her Majesty's Record Reign will assume. At a meeting held on April 26, it was decided to erect a Hospital for women and children and the training of nurses, to be handed over to the Colonial Government, who have undertaken to maintain it in conjunction with and on the same footing as the Government Civil Hospital, and to subscribe towards the commencement of a carriage road round the island. The Committee are to raise funds from all sections of the community. The government has decided to contribute an equal sum to that contributed by the community to the schemes.

Considerable satisfaction is expressed in shipping circles at Mr. Chamberlain's reply to H. E. the Governor's despatch on the Light Dues question. Mr. Chamberlain is of opinion that in calculating the proceeds of the harbour dues, the charges on native shipping must be included, as well as those in ocean-going steamers. He is not prepared to sanction the proposal to make a permanent charge of two and a-half cents per ton on general shipping, although that charge must be continued to the end of the present year in order to avoid dislocation of the year's finances. Next year the charge must be reduced to such rate as will, with the other harbour receipts, be sufficient to cover all harbour and lighthouse expenditure, and the deficiency may perhaps be most conveniently made up by increasing the assessed taxes.

Messrs Jardine Matheson and Co. have received telegraphic information of the grounding of the Indo-China str. Yiksang on the rocks at Iyosaki, at the entrance to Shimonoseki Straits, and that she was got off the following day.—*China Mail* (April 28.)

APROPOS of the lamented death of Lady Foley, the statement made to the effect that the Duchess of Cleveland, mother of the Earl of Rosebery, is the sole survivor of the bridesmaids at the Queen's marriage in 1840 is erroneous. Her Grace, who was then Lady Wilhelmine Stanhope, had as a companion Lady Elizabeth West, daughter of the fifth Earl De la Warr, who married, in 1844, the ninth Duke of Bedford, and became a widow in 1891. Elizabeth Duchess of Bedford and the Duchess of Cleveland are therefore the last of the twelve beautiful young and noble ladies who followed her Majesty to the altar, and they both hope to see her Majesty celebrate her auspicious Diamond Jubilee in June

HYDROGRAPHERS AT WORK.

THE *Nautical Magazine* says:—Hydrographical information reaching the department from any source whatever is dealt with in the following manner: First it goes to the chief of the sailing direction branch, and there it is registered and a docket attached to the front of it. The docket, or, officially speaking, "hydrographic memoranda," consists of half-a-sheet of ruled foolscap paper which contains the registered number of the communication; when received at the office; the subject of the matter; from whom it came, and the date when written. It is then taken either to the Hydrographer, or his assistant, who carefully peruses the information submitted, examines it with a view to testing its accuracy, and then decides the manner in which it is to be dealt with. All the former information respecting the matter is collected and attached to the papers. If the information is quite new, the words "no formers" are written on the docket. Next, it is transferred to the chart branch, where the position of the supposed danger, beacon, or light, is found and marked on the particular chart affected thereby. Should the case be an important one, a notice to mariners is at once prepared and issued. Before this is done, however, a draft is prepared, which is carefully overhauled by the assistant hydrographer, and submitted to the hydrographer, who examines and signs the draft in order to show that he has seen it. If there is any doubt concerning the information supplied, further inquiries are made, and, when necessary, a notice to mariners is sent out and the chart, showing the spot affected thereby, handed, together with the draft, to the officer whose duty it is to attend to the printing. He sends the manuscript on to the contractor, who sets it up in type in the ordinary way. When the "proof" is ready, the assistant hydrographer examines it, together with the chart already referred to, for the purpose of seeing that both are correct. He then takes them to the chart branch, and from there the chart is sent to the engraver, for him to correct the plate, in order that future copies may contain the alteration. These corrections are made by a private firm appointed for such work by the Admiralty. The foregoing remarks apply to an ordinary notice to mariners. When of a special character, needing considerable skill, it is compiled by the assistant hydrographer himself, and submitted to the Hydrographer for his approval before going to the printer.

The Hydrographic Department has to keep Her Majesty's ships supplied with charts, chronometers, nautical almanacs, and other professional works. The various depots on home and foreign stations have also to be attended to in this respect, while great care must be taken to keep sufficient charts and nautical works available to meet the demand of the public. Some idea may be formed of the extent of the business done by this Department when it is stated that thirty years ago just over ninety thousand Admiralty charts were sold annually, while now close upon one hundred and ninety thousand are disposed of each year, the Royal Navy alone taking over a hundred thousand. Last year twelve thousand nautical almanacs found their way into various channels. Thirty years ago four hundred and fifty chart boxes were in circulation in the Royal Navy; now there are eight hundred and ninety-five of such boxes, each containing on an average between three and four hundred charts. Over a thousand chronometers and deck watches are afloat; some three hundred and forty are at the Observatory at Deptford, while one hundred and seventy-six are under repair. But a quarter of a century ago, about £4,500 per annum was received and paid into the Treasury on account of sales of charts to the public. Last year the amount received from this source alone was £11,744. It is worthy of remark that British Admiralty charts are used to a considerable extent by most foreign nations, and British sailing directions also are translated by many maritime nations as speedily as possible after they have been published in London.

As in every other feature of nautical life, hydrography has both its interesting and its humorous side. Many years ago, the Graham Shoal, lying between Malta and Sicily, gradually rose and rose until it reached a height of a hundred and fifty feet above the level of the sea. Of course a party was very soon despatched to annex, and hoist the Union Jack on the newly found islet. Years afterwards it was reported to have disappeared, and when Her Majesty's ship Newport surveyed the spot in 1868 a mass of scoriac ashes was found, two and half fathoms under water. In 1855, while searching for the Helen shoal in the China Sea, breakers were reported from the masthead of Her Majesty's ship Dove, which immediately steamed towards the spot, and everyone on board the vessel thought a shoal existed there. On a nearer approach, however, the supposed breakers were seen to be due to a fight between a whale and a thrasher! Later on Her Majesty's ship Challenger, in the course of her cruise, happened to be in the neighbourhood of the Fiji Islands, when a peculiar play of the moonlight on the water was mistaken for an unchartered shoal. An unfamiliar "rip" was responsible for a similar mistake in the China Sea, in 1889. Again, towards the end of 1890 some mischievous fish caused a lot of trouble to a surveying expedition, when Her Majesty's ship Alert, in December of that year, was engaged in ascertaining the exact position of La Rhin shoal, in the Pacific. Breakers were sighted, and upon making for the supposed danger, hundreds of large fish were discovered jumping, and throwing the water high up into the air, and no bottom with three hundred fathoms of line could be obtained.

CAN BIRDS CARRY DISEASE?

TWO OPINIONS.

PERSONS interested in birds have recently been debating the question whether these creatures are capable of contracting diseases from human beings or of transmitting disease to human beings. Expert opinion seems to be divided. On the one hand Dr. K. Ruif, director of *Gefiederte Welt*, in a recent letter to the President of the Acclimation Society, asserts that the transmission of any disease from a bird to a man, and *vice versa*, is absolutely impossible. Says Dr. Ruif:—

"For more than thirty years I have been occupied in keeping, observing, and raising exotic birds of plumage; consequently I have had occasion to deal with them when ill. Every bird that has died has been examined, and I have thus dissected, during about thirty years, several hundred paroquets. I have always kept these birds during their illness, sometimes for a considerable period, in my apartment, which is so nowise restricted in size, being composed of only six rooms for four grown persons and four children. During all this period I have not had a single case of sickness in my family, although the birds have had all possible kinds of maladies. I am also confirmed in my belief by the fact that I have allowed no opportunity to pass of asking for information on the subject from the principal dealers in birds at Hamburg, Cologne, London, Liverpool, Antwerp, Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Marseilles, and Bordeaux, whenever they had sick birds in considerable numbers. In no case was I informed that any one either of the family or of the employes had been attacked in the house of one of these merchants, and I obtained the same information from the directors of the great zoological gardens at Paris and London. No contagion—and I cannot insist too strongly on this point—could ever be established."

These, however, are all negative facts, and would fail to stand against even one authenticated case of the transmission of disease to or from pet birds. Such cases, it is believed, have been proved to exist by Dr. Laboulbene, who communicates an account of his investigations to the Bulletin of the Acclimation Society.

"It has been remarked for sometime that birds, notably parrots and paroquets, are frequently attacked with a peculiar disease characterised by lesions of the skin and orifices. Quite recently this malady has been studied with the aid of the best modern methods, and Professor Straus gives the following minute description of it. 'The characteristic symptom of the malady in the paroquet,' says the eminent medical professor, 'is the frequency of tubercular lesions of the skin and the mucous orifices; these are generally wanting, on the contrary, in fowls and pheasants, in which the tubercles seem to prefer the digestive canal and its annexes (the liver, the spleen, the peritoneum). These lesions in paroquets consist of grayish or brownish tumours, often callous, occupying the pupils, the conjunctive, the orifices of the nasal cavities, the commissures of the beak, the tongue or hard palate, the pharynx, the skin of the wings, or the joints. In certain cases there appear on the skin multiple tumours, increasing to several centimetres in length. These dark-coloured scabs are easily rubbed off, and disclose a granulated tissue full of tubercles. The skin of the head is the favourite seat of tumours, and the tuberculous tumours of the tongue and palate present nearly the same characteristics as those of the external skin. The internal organs only are attacked in some cases, the lungs more frequently than the liver and the intestines; just the opposite of what is observed with fowls.'

"The nature of this affection, then, admits of doubt; the presence of tubercles and of bacilli demonstrates that we have to deal with tuberculosis. And after having established that the tuberculosis of birds is experimentally inoculable in mammals, that the bacillus of human and that of aviary tuberculosis are but two varieties of the same microbe, the author cites the following instance:—'A dressmaker, in good health, after having lost successively her husband and her eldest daughter (of tuberculosis?) went to new lodgings to live with her second daughter, who also was suspected of tuberculosis. In 1890 a friend gave them a present of a tame sparrow; two years later it became sick, lost its habitual gaiety and good-temper, and in a fit of irritation pecked violently at its mistress and inflicted a slight wound on her finger. Several months afterwards the bird died. Six months after receiving the wound from the bird's beak, the dressmaker was disturbed at seeing that there was a little swelling at the point where the sparrow had hurt her, and went for advice to the Hotel Dieu, where Dr. Durant discovered two indurated tumours on the forearm and without hesitation diagnosed the case as one of lupus. This was afterwards verified by examination of the extirpated tumours and finally by the inoculation from these of a guinea-pig and a rabbit, which developed the symptoms of tuberculosis.' Lupus, it is well known, is a form of tuberculosis. From this experiment and from clinical observation, we may, then, affirm this truth, the knowledge of which is very important; that birds, in many circumstances, can carry disease to persons, breeders or amateurs, who are brought in contact with them by their occupations or their tastes."

THE late P. T. Barnum's "Greatest Show on Earth" is being carried on in New York this year under the title of Barnum and Bailey's show. The new management rival, if they do not excel, Mr. Barnum in a department in which he was famous—namely, in the art of advertising their wares. The most alarming announcement is, however, that made by Mr. J. A. Bailey, the manager, to the effect that the show will go on "for ever." One of the provisions of an agreement entered into between the late P. T. Barnum and myself (says Mr. Bailey) was, that the great show bearing our united names should go on for ever. That agreement was made binding upon our heirs and assigns, and I am now fulfilling my part of that agreement which my long years of devotion to the business, I may say without egotism, peculiarly and eminently qualifies me to do, with entire satisfaction to myself and to my millions of patrons; and so far as human forethought can go I have provided for the perpetuity of my show and have no fear, but that succeeding generations will be as charmed, delighted, and instructed with the entertainment equally as much as the present one. In the thought of the perpetuity of my show I take much comfort and enjoyment.

NOTHING.

THE *St. Andrews Gazette* Buenos Ayres says:—When one has nothing to write about he ought to write about nothing. This seems obvious and yet some foolish people don't seem to think so. They know they have nothing to write about, and yet they persist in their feeble lucubrations, writing about something, and they include all manner of subjects of which they are in absolute ignorance. They know this and yet they do it: the public knows this and yet it allows it. The present writer will not swell the number of that unhappy class. He is a man who has a keen sense of duty. He feels he has a message to deliver and he is determined to speak it. He has the courage of his convictions, and having nothing to write about, will write about *Nothing*.

What is nothing? It is a serious question. It is a question which in this boasted and boastful scientific age has never, somehow, been satisfactorily answered. Men have talked about nothing; they have for ages dreamed about nothing; and yet they have never given us any satisfactory information as a result of all this waste of time and energy. In short, the person who has the courage to tell us about nothing is a new pioneer in science and a benefactor of his kind. One definition, it is true, has been given of nothing. It has been said, and we confess with great ingenuity: nothing is the bung-hole of a barrel without the barrel. We admit this is plausible. It is a suggestive definition. It is one which, it can well be imagined, has peculiar attractions for a certain type of mind. In short, it owes its attractiveness to the subtle law of the association of ideas. We instinctively and immediately think of the barrel, not of the bung-hole nor of the absence of the barrel. Our thoughts dwell, do they not, on the barrel. And a barrel that has a bung-hole is usually a beer-barrel or a whiskey-barrel or some other pleasant kind of barrel. Hence, of course, the pleasurable feeling, the glow of a certain sort of, as it were, anticipatory delight which we foolishly mistake for the mental insight that has at last, as we think, solved the great problem, What is nothing?

But let us give this definition its due. Let us test it by the criticism of modern science. Now, modern science tells us that there is no such thing as nothing. It seeks to justify itself for its failure to tell us what nothing is by declaring that it doesn't exist. And so this definition, even in assuming that nothing is something, stands apparently condemned on the very threshold of the inquiry. But having appealed to science, let us deal with science in a bold and at the same time fair and open manner. We contend that this is just one of those instances in which science proves its utter failure to explain the deepest questions of life. For it is obvious that science cannot admit that there is nothing. Once it confessed that really and truly nothing existed in this world, it would be committing suicide, as it were. Science has to assume that there is *Something*, otherwise its calling and occupation would be gone. Its professors would starve. An admiring world would lose the shining ornaments of the age. But it is no use these people telling us that there is no such thing as nothing. We know that there is nothing. We feel that there is nothing. We are convinced that there is nothing. Experience teaches us that there is nothing.

Now the great test of anything is experience. The acts of life are after all the great touch-stone by which to try any statement that is made to us or any theory which so-called scientific men expound to us. And undoubtedly the facts of life tell us that there is such a fact, such a thing, as nothing. For instance, "when I have had nothing to eat all day" and when, to continue the words of the immortal dramatist, "I have such a pain here," the region of the abdomen being indicated, two truths are suggested to me. Firstly when I do eat, I usually eat something. And secondly, there is no cause without an effect. What I suffer from, under the circumstances pathetically referred to, is a pain in the stomach. This is an effect. What is the cause of this effect? Clearly, the fact that I have been eating nothing. And if, as has been shown, I cannot eat without eating something, therefore it follows that nothing is something. We think this is quite clear. Nothing, in fact, if we may use the much abused term in this connection, can be clearer, than that nothing exists! And this is a statement which only seems paradoxical because it is ambiguous.

We could bring forward many other arguments from experience to prove that there is such a thing as nothing. We might ask, for instance, what it is that your wife finds when in the dead of night and trembling at the supposed sound of stealthy movements she looks fearfully under the bed. What does she find? Nothing. Or, again, when a dear, a much-beloved relative dies, and the tears streaming down our cheeks at the pathetic, soul-moving circumstance, we listen to the reading of the will, what, ah, what is the legacy we learn has been left us?—Nothing. And so on. The facts in support of our contention in opposition to the modern theorist that there is no such thing as nothing are so numerous that space forbids further mention. And having proved, having, as we think, clearly demonstrated that nothing is a reality, the question of what nothing is, is really a secondary and minor matter. What the world was waiting for was the authoritative declaration that there is nothing. The further and simpler problem may safely be left to others to investigate.

GERMAN DUELS AND THEIR PUNISHMENT.

MR. JAMES PEMBERTON GRANT, writes in the *Cornhill Magazine*:—Not long after I left a German University it was my misfortune to incur the penalty of imprisonment in a fortress, and I had of it an experience of some months. My sentence was the punishment of a duel, and unusually severe; in the first place, because it was fought in a room with the doors locked, which is not allowed; and, in the second place, because, though there were seconds and an *unparteiischer* in obedience to the regulation, there was no surgeon, which is contrary to law. The authorities were pleased to accept bail for my appearance in the sum of 2,000 florins (about £200). I had had the worst of the encounter, which was of the kind called *Säbel-glace*—that is, with light cavalry-sabres, the men stripped to the waist. I had received a severe cut in the side, penetrating almost to the lung, and it was some weeks before I was on my feet again. When the trial took place I secured the services of an advocate, whose main function, it appeared, was to be snubbed by the Court. The *Staatsanwalt* did most of the talking, and to some purpose. I was sentenced to four months' imprisonment in the fortress of Rastadt, close to where the duel had taken place. This punishment the Grand Duke of Baden was afterwards graciously pleased to reduce by six weeks. My prison was in a wing of the Palace, the other being used as an arsenal. In the main building were the old State apartments of the Margravine Gisella. The wing I was in was divided into two great suites, one a prison, the other the apartments of the Governor. The prisoners were either duellists, officers of the army confined for breaches of discipline, or journalists and orators who expressed their opinion of the Government too freely. I had two companions in misfortune, both Americans and students of the Polytechnic School at Carlsruhe—a Mr. G., of New York, who, after an altercation with the sergeant in charge of the swimming School at Carlsruhe, had thrown him into the water; and a Mr. T., a stalwart Virginian, who, after a long carouse at the *Kneipe* with his fellow-students, fell foul of a sentry, whom he pommelled to his heart's content, and, when a lieutenant and his men came out of the guard-house to arrest him, made a determined resistance. Both of these gentlemen had been sentenced to the same term of imprisonment as myself.

Our quarters consisted of three large, well-ventilated, handsome rooms, facing on the great courtyard of the Palace, where the band played every day at noon when the guard was relieved. This was a great joy to us, as the beaux and belles of the little garrison town promenaded under the trees as long as the music lasted. Our custodian was old Hegele, who had been a *Feldwebel*—a first sergeant of infantry—in his younger days, and had received this post as the reward of long and meritorious services with the colours. His present emoluments were large; a great number of "tips" and boxes of cigars fell to his share, for, as it was in his power to subject us to a good many petty annoyances, he was liberally treated. His daughter, a buxom little black-eyed lass of fifteen, brought us our Kaffee of a morning. She was inclined to flirt a little indiscreetly, I am afraid, with some of the *einjährige*, or one-year volunteers of the garrison, who were always hanging about her. One of Hegele's duties was to accompany us during our daily two hours' walk. The instructions were, that we must not go beyond the outer line of the fortifications, nor enter any house. Any officer of the garrison who would call and become responsible for our safe return could replace Hegele as our companion during the walk. I knew a great many, so that Hegele was seldom called upon to go with me, though I always paid him, of course, the small fee he was entitled to for this service. A curious custom of the duellists who had been confined there was to scribble their names on the walls, with the date of their duel, and above it crossed swords or pistols, to show the weapons used. When the duel had a fatal issue, a rudely drawn skull and cross-bones surmounted the whole. One student's name was topped with a couple of crossed keys of enormous size, like the emblems of St. Peter. I was told that in a fight with the police, he had struck a "Nachtwachter," or watchman, over the head with his "Haus chlussel," or what corresponds to a latchkey in Germany, and usually weighs about a pound; a most formidable instrument of offence. For this he served a long term of imprisonment, consoling himself with the fact that, though tiresome, his punishment was "nicht entehrend" (not dishonouring), and in this we find the main reason why "fortress" as a means of putting a stop to duelling will never be a success.

THE marriage of Captain Seymour Campbell Johnston, King's Own Scottish Borderers, son of the late Captain Frederick Erskine Johnstone, R.N., and grandson of the late Right Hon. Sir Alexander Johnston, of Carnsalloch, with Olive, youngest daughter of Sir James and Lady Walker of Sand Hutton, Yorkshire, took place on April 21 in St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, in the presence of a large congregation of relatives and friends. Sir James Walker gave his daughter away, and the bridegroom's brother, Captain Bruce Campbell Johnston, R.E., attended as best-man. The wedding party subsequently reassembled at Lady Walker's residence in Belgrave-square, and later in the afternoon Captain and Mrs. Campbell Johnston left for Ragley Hall, Warwickshire, the seat of the Marquess of Hertford.

PRESIDENT M'KINLEY will appoint another expert Commission to act with the British Commissioners who are to visit Behring Sea in the summer for the purpose of studying the conditions of seal life. Whether the *personnel* will be the same as that of the previous Commission is as yet unsettled. The last Commissioners did not agree on all points among the unsolved questions being the best means of preserving seal life. Negotiations are proceeding with a view to securing a "modus vivendi" with Great Britain, whereby sealing by land and sea would be suspended in the coming season, the experts meanwhile proceeding with their work.

FLORILINE.—FOR THE TEETH AND BREATH. A few drops of the liquid "Floriline" sprinkled on a wet tooth brush produces a pleasant lather, which thoroughly cleanses the teeth from all parasites or impurities, hardens the gums, prevents tartar, stops decay, gives to the teeth a peculiar pearly whiteness and a delightful fragrance to the breath. It removes all unpleasant odour arising from decayed teeth or tobacco smoke. "The Fragrant Floriline," being composed in part of honey and sweet herbs, is delicious to the taste, and the greatest toilet discovery of the age. Price 2s. 6d. of all Chemists and Perfumers. Wholesale Depot, 33, Farringdon Road, London, England.

FEMININE FACTS AND FANCIES.

A VENTURESOME prophet was last year inspired to declare that the rage for bicycling would effect a reform in dress in the direction of simplicity. No woman would ever have expected anything of the kind, for she would be able to foreknow, from her own inner consciousness, that the very fact of having to abstain from trimmings and frillings during one part of the day would enhance the appreciation of these dainty and delicate delights on the part of the cyclists. Coveys of wheelwomen are now to be seen in every street, most of them strictly clad in tailor-made costumes, but a certain contingent indulging in a comparatively flighty kind of head-gear, rather inconsistent with the severity of cloth and frieze, tweed and serge. Whether from this cause, i.e., a reactionary pleasure taken in the frivolities of costume, or merely arising from fashions whirligig, it is certain that walking, reception, and visiting costumes of the coming season will be remarkably elaborate in make and trimming, in these respects quite equalling the glaring eccentricities of colour that have already been noticeable during the last few weeks. The tulips in Hyde Park would seem to have been taken as examples for much of the millinery of these early days of spring, just as the over-trimming and voluminously irrelevant ornament of the early Victorian era has been copied in many of the costumes prepared for later spring and summer wear. It is to be feared that the trimmed skirt and even the double skirt and its inseparable sister, the polonaise, intend to attack the fortress of English commonsense and independence. Some of the foremost London firms are showing dresses "trimmed to death," as an American girl graphically remarked. Miles of frilling, furlongs of braid and buttons, and whole acres of beads and imitation jewels are to be seen in the showrooms of those who buy largely in Paris for English customers.

Some sketches ginven by a contemporary represent the style of costume that will be worn by the great majority of well-to-do English women, who like to combine economy in dress with the necessary compliance with the decrees of fashion. There is just sufficient ornament to differentiate the gowns, and the outline is strictly true to the latest mode. One shows a visiting costume in suede-coloured cashmere, with a light braided design running round the hem between a double row of black braid. This was a favourite style of trimming with the ancient Greeks, so that we have the advantage of a classic source to plead for an ornament that is neither heavy nor inartistic. As the braiding can also be done at home, it may be strictly inexpensive as well. The bodice has a plastron of brocade, in tones of golden brown and sea-blue, which curves out into epaulettes over the top of the sleeves and, down the left side, is frilled with black chiffon. The plastron is bordered with a line of black satin, sewn on as a binding, and is cut away in a V-shaped point in front to show the white chiffon vest with stock to match. The folded belt, coming down in a point in front, is also black satin. The hat is in suede-coloured silk straw, a novelty of the present season, and is trimmed with black ostrich feathers and a cluster of roses.

Another sketch shows a gown made of the light, cool, and yet substantial Muscovite cloth in a tone of green that is much in favour at this moment. The braid on the shoulders, sleeves, and skirt, and also forming the belt, is black. The vest is in shot green and gold glace silk, but the little bow at the neck is black satin. The hat is sailor-shape composed of bass straw, rather notched in the pleating, and is trimmed with white poppies.

The new straws for hats and toques are in the most brilliant colours possible. Among the almost innumerable shades may be mentioned bright metallic greens, startlingly vivid, sometimes even livid, not to say lurid; yellow-greens like the tint of a ripening summer apple or a freshly cut corn-cob; maize and golden yellows, with many a deeper tone of orange and softer sulphur tint; an incredible variety of mauve, heliotrope, purple, pansy, lilac, and petunia, with kindred shades of claret, burgundy, currant, and plum.

The fashionable tint for lace is that of ripe corn, more of a buff than the butter-colour of last spring, but by no means lacking in warmth and depth. As to the ribbons, they show colours combined that once would have been regarded as a nightmare, while a revival of an oldworld fashion will soon be seen in the narrow ruches prepared for neck and wrist, in black white, cream, and corn-colour.

Well-dressed shop girls form one of the attractions at a new shop in London. A well-known Parisian costumier has opened a large permanent establishment there, and his employees wander about the white painted rooms, wearing dress after dress that shows off the latest fashion.

It is said that the young Duchess of Marlborough has a scheme of her own for celebrating the Queen's reign, and that it has been submitted to several members of the Royal Family, who are struck with its utility. The Duchess has splendid business capacities, and is ever interested in some kindly work.

A folding mail-cart and perambulator is the latest of domestic appliances. It can be folded up and carried in the hand. When the mother wishes to go upstairs, take a cab, or go in a train, all she has to do is to take out the baby, fold up the cart, hang the baby, over one arm and the cart on the other, and go on her way rejoicing.

The new evening shoes which are to be worn are interesting in many ways but are chiefly remarkable for their extraordinarily high heels and the elaborate materials of which they are made. In shape and make-up they far more strongly resemble the footgear worn by some fine French dame of two or three centuries ago than they do the slippers ordinarily worn to-day.

The revival of the use of false hair in women's coiffures has again sent abroad the stories that these ornaments are shorn for the trade from the scalps of dead women. It may be reassuring to the ladies to know that such stories are untrue. They are physiologically impossible, because after death the hair becomes too brittle to be twisted into the forms demanded by fashion in the chignon.

Jewellers are about to make an effort to introduce long earrings. Her Majesty has a decided weakness for them, and has a larger assortment of these articles than any lady in Europe. The Duchess of York also joins with Her Majesty in her regard for these ornaments, and is very desirous they should again become fashionable. The Duchess possesses some handsome specimens, which are heirlooms in the Teck family.

One of the trials of housekeeping is the wholesale breakage and smashing which goes merrily on in the kitchen. One discovers Pieces of one's nicest glass hidden away in a cupboard, and Mary Jane wonders with an air of surprise how they got there. The prettiest tea-service comes up cracked, and Mary Jane has never noticed it. A beautiful flower-pot is smashed, and that useful domestic scapegoat, the cat, is quoted to you, even though you can't bear cats, and have never had one in the house. But Mary Jane may be, to a certain extent, defied, and if you will follow these simple directions, you may prevent the wholesale destruction of your glass and your earthen and your iron ware. Put dishes, tumblers, and other glass articles into a kettle; cover them entirely with cold water, and put the kettle where it will soon boil. When it has boiled a few minutes, set it aside, covered close. When the water is cold take out the glass. Treat new earthenware in the same way.

Few women know how to rest as they should. They think that they must undress and go to bed to be thoroughly comfortable. This is a mistake, provided there is a little footstool in the room on which the feet may rest while the other part of the body is supported by a chair. You can read and rest comfortably in this fashion; and let it be whispered here between ourselves that if we want to gain the maximum of rest in the minimum of time, we should copy that inelegant but healthful trick of the masculine drones, and put our feet occasionally higher than our heads.

An American visitor to England says that the simplicity of English society is the first thing which would be most likely to impress an American used to the more complex methods which prevail in New York or Washington. The absence of mere social rivalry or competition would strike him. The ambition to do something different, to surpass one's neighbours and friends, to introduce a new style of decoration or a more costly form of entertainment is not at all characteristic of the English. They are content with things as they are. Their ways of life have long since been settled. They are inherited along with the great houses and great estates. There are in England such things as social traditions and observances, which have been handed down from generation to generation. It is not thought necessary to experiment with new methods or toutdo somebody else in splendour. The New Yorker, with his or her insatiable appetite for novelty and superiority, might find this spirit of repose difficult to comprehend. He would, nevertheless, presently feel the charm of it—the delight of an existence which was not all hurry and tumult and fierce energy and desperate passion for leadership. The leaderships of English society are pretty well determined for a generation at a time.

It is a sad thing to say, but the chances are that you will never be married. If you are already engaged you are not included in this prophecy. But if you are the average young woman, only a little better looking than the ordinary (as you all are), a little brighter (as you all are) and a whole world more attractive (as, of course, you are)—why, then, this means you. Most girls are not given or taken in marriage. It is a bold saying, but a true one, for it is based upon statistics, upon figures which never lie. Some indisposed persons have been figuring it out—they must have had a lot to do!—and there is no getting away from their figures. In shocking disregard for the old saw that "there can't be too much of a good thing," there are too many marriageable girls. More than enough to go round. More young women than young men. Then, since the young men are not Mohommedans, and cannot lawfully practise polygamy, and, what is more since you wouldn't allow them if they could, it follows as the night the day that some of you are destined to be left by the wayside. What becomes of that other wise old saw—

There never was a goose so gray
But some old gander came that way
And took her for his mate?

Obsolete and no longer true, like so many of its fellows.

These troublesome statisticians have discovered that the numerical preponderance of women over men differs according to locality, but that in general it is in the proportion of about 110 to 100. Ten girls too many! Of every ten girls you know at least one is destined to old maidenhood. It is not always profitable to seek the causes and reasons for things, but in this case there are some pretty obvious phenomena upon which to fasten the responsibility for the sad facts. The chief of them doubtless is the appearance of women in walks of life formerly left to the men. The working girl, the salaried girl, the girl wage-earner, the clerks and typewriters and shopgirls and the domestic servants—upon their already tired shoulders rests the burden for this new order. It is estimated that of all women who work for their own and others living about one-third are domestic servants. The great majority are in the army who go up and down town, morning and evening, shoulder to shoulder with the men.

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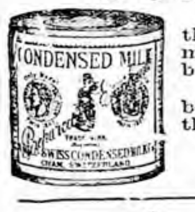

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